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Preview

Historic Jaguar cars at Syon Park and an exhibition in Surrey of costumes from BBC Television's *The Six Wives of Henry VIII* and *Elizabeth R* are among the family outings suggested for the coming week in today's *Preview*, the arts and entertainments guide published each Friday with *The Times*. Full information about current and forthcoming arts festivals, films, plays, concerts, exhibitions, sport and broadcasting are also included.

Security tight at Hillhead

Strathclyde police imposed strict day-long security at Knightswood secondary school, where the Glasgow, Hillhead, by-election votes were counted. Only pass holders were allowed in and everyone was searched. A high turnout was reported. Mr Bruce Douglas-Mann, the Independent SDP MP for Merton, Mitcham and Morden, is to fight a by-election on June 3 as he promised to do when he left the Labour Party last year. Background, page 5

Nigerian ban 'to cost UK £250m'

British companies could lose up to £250m in business because of Nigeria's two-month moratorium on imports, the Confederation of British Industry estimated. It said thousands of companies, large and small, would be affected Page 13

Jail conditions 'deplorable'

Conditions in Leeds prison are described as deplorable by the Chief Inspector of Prisons in a report. It says that "deplorable" overcrowding in the prison makes life a daily struggle for survival Page 3

Official secrets rules relaxed

The Government has decided, in response to last year's Wilson report on official secrecy, among other measures, to relax the blanket exemption from public disclosure under the 30-year rule of the internal files of MI5 and MI6 Page 5

Helicopter saves eight

An RAF helicopter from Lossiemouth rescued eight men yesterday from an Icelandic cargo ship abandoned in the north Atlantic. Two more crew were rescued by a Danish helicopter and one man was missing in rough seas.

E Germany tells guards to shoot

East Germany passed a law formally ordering its border guards to shoot anyone trying to flee into West Germany. Last year about 300 East Germans escaped across the heavily mined and guarded frontier Page 6

'Thoroughbreds' in decline

The state of British bloodstock is examined in part four of *The Times* series on the racing industry. It shows how exports by overseas breeders have affected the quality of thoroughbreds Page 18

Sattar under death threat

President Sattar of Bangladesh and his Cabinet, ousted in a coup could face the death penalty, Dacca radio said. Page 7

Easter recess

The Commons will rise for the Easter recess on April 8 and return on April 19. The Lords will rise on April 7 and resume on April 19.

Cambridge blow

The Cambridge crew for tomorrow's university boat race damaged their boat's shell in training at Chiswick when they hit a submerged piece of timber Page 17

IRA kill three soldiers after holding Belfast family hostage

By Richard Ford

Three soldiers were shot dead in an IRA ambush in west Belfast yesterday only 22 hours after the Chief Constable of the Royal Ulster Constabulary said terrorists were reeling from blows inflicted upon them by informers.

A two-vehicle Army patrol had just left the heavily guarded police station in Springfield Road when gunmen opened fire from a house where they had held a family hostage for almost 12 hours. Two soldiers were killed instantly and a third died later in the Rolay Victoria Hospital after they were hit by a burst of fire from an M60 machine gun and two high-powered rifles.

Nine passers-by aged between 27 and 72 were injured in the attack, which lasted for a couple of minutes. The ambush, which happened at 11.20 am, is a reminder that despite reports in Belfast that terrorists are suffering major problems after up to 200 arrests because of informers, they are still able to mount serious attacks.

Three of the civilians injured in the attack, which happened in a street crowded with women, some enjoying the sunshine with their children, were kept in hospital. The other six were treated for shock and cuts.

The soldiers, from the Royal Green Jackets, are the first Army fatalities in the province this year. The ambush was the worst single incident since last May, when five soldiers from the Green Jackets died when a Saracen armoured car was blown up in south Armagh. Yesterday's deaths bring the total in Northern Ireland since the present troubles began to 2,187, with the Army losing 348 men.

The names of the dead soldiers were being withheld last night until their relatives had been told.

Some kind of reaction had been expected in Ulster to the comments of Sir John Hermon, Chief Constable o fthe RUC, about terrorists "reeling" because of informants. However, the Provisional IRA said in a statement that the attack was not a direct response to British-inspired stories that the organization was finished.

The attack demonstrated "in a practical fashion that the IRA is here to stay and that the struggle will continue until our objectives are achieved".

Mr James Prior, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, appealed in the House of Commons for restraint in commenting about Ulster. He said everything must be done to help the security forces but added: "It is so important for everyone in this House not to say anything which will make the task of peaceful persuasion more difficult.

"Every time that anyone in the press or anywhere talks about the demise of the IRA it is an open invitation for them to come out. That is why I think the less said about these things the better."

The Rev Ian Paisley, leader of the Democratic Unionist Party, was more blunt, saying that Sir John must accept part of the blame for the deaths of the soldiers.

There was no immediate response from tht Chief Constable although the police said that such a carefully planned attack "takes longer than an hour to set up". They called for vigilance and said: "The Provisional IRA and INLA (Irish National Liberation Army have suffered serious reverses and are all the more dangerous for that."

Yesteday's ambush Legan at midnight on Wednesday in Crocus Street, near the police station, when at least five men took over a house and held Mrs Anne McGivern, aged 81, her daughter Mrs Christine Quinn and son-in-law Eamon, hostage thoughout the night. As the two Army Land-Rovers drove past the house two gunmen upstairs and one on tthe ground floor opened fire from about 300 yds.

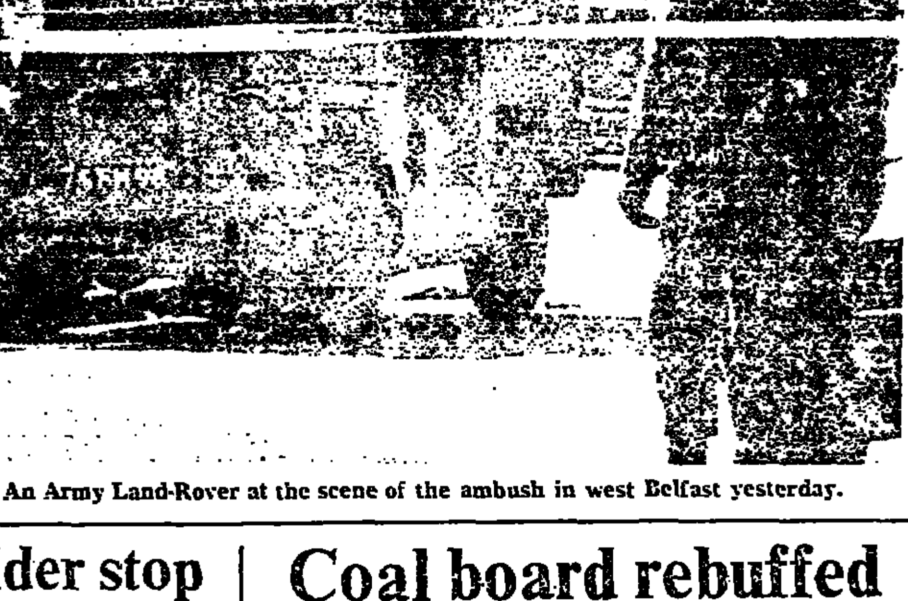
More than 50 shots were fired, spraying the Army vehicles and a van near by and hitting the three soldiers. Women snatched frightened children and pushed them indoors and passers-by fell to tthe ground and sought cover in hallways.

So quick was the attack that the Army was unable to return fire and the gunmen fled through a back door

Mrs Doreen Donnelly, a mother of five who lives in Crocus Street, said: "The soldiers were lying on the ground squealing and rolling about in agony. There was pandemonium in the street, which was crowded at the time."

Chief Superintendent James Crutchley, of the RUC, said it was a diabolical attack carried out indiscriminately.

Prior assembly plan, page 2
Regiment's tragedy, page 3



An Army Land-Rover at the scene of the ambush in west Belfast yesterday.

Bell, Marconi, but Baird?

From Christopher Thomas
New York, March 25

One chilly evening early in 1926, John Logie Baird invited a small group of guests into his London attic workshop at 22 Frith Street, Soho, and promised to show them something remarkable.

He asked them to gather round a strange looking apparatus and to keep their eyes fixed firmly on a small screen in the centre, which was the lens of a bicycle lamp. He disappeared into an adjoining room, grabbed a ventriloquist's dummy, and began fiddling with another peculiar looking machine.

Soon, light began to flicker on the screen and gradually the blurred but unmistakable image of the dummy was seen bobbing up and down. Two days later, on January 28, that momentous occasion was reported exclusively in *The Times* under the headline: "The televisor. Successful test of new apparatus."

It was—or was it?—the beginning of television.

Baird, a poor Scottish scientist in bad health, was involved in a desperate race to become the first to transmit moving pictures. Whether he was the first, whether he deserves the honour of being the inventor of television, is the subject of intensive controversy in broadcasting circles in the United States.

Most Americans are taught that television was the invention of American engineers and scientists: a few are taught

THE "TELEVISOR."

SUCCESSFUL TEST OF NEW APPARATUS.

Members of the Royal Institution and other visitors to a laboratory in an upper room in Frith-street, Soho, on Tuesday saw a demonstration of apparatus invented by Mr. J. L. Baird, who claims to have solved the problem of television. They were shown a transmitting machine, consisting of a large wooden revolving disc containing lenses, behind which was a revolving shutter and a light sensitive cell. It was explained that by means of the shutter and lens disc an image of articles or persons standing in front of the machine could be made to pass over the light sensitive cell at a high speed. The current in the cell varies

The report in "The Times" on January 28, 1926.

that the father of television was Vladimir Zworkin, a Russian-born scientist resident in America. Hardly anybody, however, has heard of Baird.

Mr Donald Flamm, an American millionaire who helped pioneer commercial radio in the United States, brought Baird to America, in 1931, to continue his work on the transmission of images, and they became close friends. "He died broken-hearted because his achievement was not recognized", Mr Flamm said. "As Bell is to the telephone and Marconi is to radio, so Baird should be to television."

Mr Flamm, who owns two popular radio stations in the New York area, has no doubt that Baird was the inventor of tetlevision, in the sense that he gave the first practical demonstration of transmitted moving images.

Baird wrote in his unpublished memoirs: "The situation was becoming desperate and we were down to our last £30 when at last, one Friday in the

Continued on back page, col 8

Wider stop and search powers for the police

By Hugh Noyes
Westminster

Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, yesterday responded to the clamour in certain sections of the Conservative Party for firmer action to combat rising crime by announcing legislative plans to extend police powers to stop and search.

The new powers will be brought forward in the next session of Parliament in a police Bill which is expected to include new arrangements for a more widely acceptable police complaints procedure. Mr Whitelaw said he accepted the case that the Royal Commission on Criminal Procedure had made for a rationalization of the existing powers to stop and search for stolen goods.

Under the proposed legislation police will have wider powers to stop people if they suspect that they are carrying not only stolen goods but offensive weapons, and also to search premises for evidence in difficult cases.

The Home Secretary also said that he would be taking the earliest opportunity to widen the area of disqualification for jury service to exclude anyone convicted of an imprisonable offence during the previous 10 years. Mr Whitelaw has been concerned at reports that in some areas former criminals have been turning up on juries in alarming numbers.

There was an angry response to the stop and search proposals. From the Labour backbenches Mr Norman Atkinson (Haringey, Tottenham), said extending these powers would sacrifice the good will of young people and particularly of young blacks.

Mr Roy Hattersley, opposition spokesman on home affairs, said that Labour would not support any new police powers that would detach the police even further from the community. The sort of powers that would do this, he said, were among those recommended by the Royal Commission and included the stop and search powers, fingerprinting of children and the arrest of anyone refusing to give his name and address.

Mr Whitelaw also came under fire for having agreed to the publication by the Metropolitan police of figures for crimes of violence analysed according to the race of the assailant. Mr Hattersley said it was hard to imagine a more phoney set of statistics. The Home Secretary, he suggested, must know that those tables were statistical garbage.

Mr Whitelaw disagreed that the figures would harm race relations. It was better, he said, for such problems to be discussed in terms of the facts rather than rumours.

Coal board rebuffed over Belvoir mining

By John Young and Paul Routledge

The Government yesterday rejected the National Coal Board's application to mine the Vale of Belvoir coalfield.

The announcement came nearly two years after the conclusion of a public inquiry which lasted 83 days. It was greeted with predictable relief and delight by farmers and conservationists, and with equally predictable anger and dismay by the NCB and the National Union of Mineworkers.

The long delay in reaching a verdict is widely assumed to have been due to a deep division in the Cabinet between Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, and Mr Peter Walker, Minister of Agriculture, on the one hand, and Mr David Howell, former Secretary of State for Energy, and his successor, Mr Nigel Lawson, on the other.

In refusing the application, albeit with qualifications, Mr Heseltine overruled the recommendation of the inquiry inspector, Mr Michael Mann, QC, that permission should be granted to develop the coalfield and to construct three mines, but that it should be refused for spoil-tips at Hose and Saltby.

His decision should not be seen as going against Government policy that the coal industry had an essential and increasing part to play in meeting the country's future energy needs, Mr Heseltine said.

He accepted that the board might wish to submit new planning applications setting out revised proposals for exploiting a massive national resource. But before doing so it should reexamine how the coalfield could be worked to minimize environmental disturbance, and how the colliery waste could be disposed of other than by local surface tipping.

Mr Heseltine's statement made it clear that it was the waste disposal issue that had finally swayed the Government. He indicated that, if and when the main environmental objections could be overcome, the board would be welcome to submit new applications. These would be handled quickly.

"The board submitted a single application covering all of the underground coal extraction in Leicestershire, together with the three mine complexes and the three tips", he observed. "They have thus opted to stand or fall on a strategy of developing the coalfield as one project.

"Had it not been for this, and had there been acceptable proposals for spoil disposal, I would have been minded to grant planning permission for mines at Ashfordby and Saltby."

The development of a mine complex at the proposed Hose site was environmentally unacceptable, Mr Heseltine said. Nine alien buildings there on the scale proposed would dominate a wide area.

He accepted that the coal would be needed and that development of the coalfield would bring important employment. But this was not incompatible with seeking an approach which gave more weight to the environmental objections.

Miners' leaders reacted angrily to the decision, and are demanding early talks with the NCB to avert unemployment among Leicestershire pitmen.

NCB members met last night to analyse the Minister's statement and announced urgent consideration for a fresh planning application.

Delay in the Belvoir project is likely to be exploited politically by Mr Arthur Scargill, the incoming president of the miners' union, who takes over in 10 days' time.

The National Farmers' Union said yesterday that it was pleased that the Secretary of State had recognized the value to the nation of an important agricultural area.

Belvoir setback, page 2
Teme Valley decision, page 5

Nicaragua puts its case to UN

From Zoriana Pysariwsky
New York, March 25

The grievances of Nicaragua's Sandinist Government against the United States were today presented in a dispassionate manner before the United Nations Security Council by Commander Daniel Ortega Saavedra, the coordinator of the ruling millitary junta.

He accused Washington of plotting intervention against his country but it was evident from his statement that the Nicaraguan's were clearly looking forward to face to face negotiations with the Americans.

Nicaragua's decision to appear before the Council had been largely designed to launch a counter-offensive to the propaganda war being waged by Washington in the past few months. But his overture to the Americans coincided with the expectation that the two sides will meet soon to discuss the Mexican peace plan

"We are not here to make use of this forum to level insults against the United States Government," Commander Ortega said, "but we want to avoid a conflagration of untold consequences for peace in the region.

"We are willing to improve the climate of relations with the United States on the basis of mutual respect and unconditional recognition of our right to self-determination, and we are willing to begin immediately frank and direct conversations with the Government of the United States."

☐ Managua: The independent Nicaraguan newspaper *La Prensa* was today closed down because it contained reports that "leant themselves to the anti-patriotic game of the Nicaraguan right," a Government statement said (AP reports).

Salvador waits, page 6

£813m EEC refund for Britain

By David Blake, Economics Editor

Britain will receive payments from the European Community totalling £813.2m over the next few days as part of a refund of its 1981 contributions to the Community budget. A further payment to be made after the start of the next financial year in April will bring the total refund for 1981 up to £903.6m.

The payments are being made under the terms of an agreement reached in 1980 by Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, and leaders of other Community countries. Negotiations for a new agreement to limit Britain's contribution to the EEC are going on at present, with little sign yet of agreement on how much cash other member countries are prepared to pay back to Britain out of its contributions.

The latest payments bring the total received under the rebate scheme to £1,700m. The payments are formally made to help fund public works programmes in Britain.

A list of projects aided by the Community under the scheme was published yesterday along with the written answer announcing the rebate. But the link between the EEC aid and the spending programmes is only notional, since the Government puts up a list to Brussels for aid after it has decided where it intends to spend the money. The Community accepts the British proposals in order to ensure that London receives the refund it is entitled to

☐ Brussels: The European Commission today celebrated 25 years of Community service with a rum story as it tried to forget a bad memory from last night's television (Ian Murray reports).

A West German channel, ZDF had arranged a programme which starred the three current presidents of the Community. The plan was that Mr Gaston Thorn, the president of the Commission, and Mr Leo Tindemans, the president of the Council, should meet Mr Piet Dankert, the president of the European Parliament, in the debating chamber of the Parliament in Strasbourg to discuss the past, present and future of the EEC.

The programme was going out live when the lights suddenly failed leaving the three European leaders talking in the dark. Viewers at home were not deprived of the fascinating discussion and were able to listen while watching a test card. After 13 minutes of darkness the lights shone again in Parliament and the three presidents returned to the screen.

The rum story was issued at the regular noon briefing of the Commission. It concerned "a derogation from a fundamental treaty provision" under "the non-discrimination rule contained in Article 95". In plain words this means that the Commission is suggesting that there should be a temporary bending of its rules.

It is all because what is known as "traditional" rum qualifies for a special "consumption tax" in French overseas departments, which ought not to apply inside the Community. Nevertheless a fixed quota of rum from the French overseas departments has been allowed into France at below EEC rate.

After years of court struggle, the Commission is now seeking to limit French preferential rum tax arrangements to a ceiling "based on the ratio between the preferential rate applied to such rum and the normal rate applied to other spirits at the time of the entry into force of the Council decision".

Silver jubilee, page 6

SAS man's wife to receive five-figure sum

A health authority is to make a five-figure interim payment to the wife of a part-time SAS soldier left in a coma for 10 months after being starved of oxygen during a routine operation.

The exact amount to be paid by the Hereford and Worcester area health authority to Mrs Anne Woodhouse, aged 25, is not being disclosed

Mr David Woodhouse, aged 28, suffered brain damage when he was left without oxygen for a prolonged period during an appendix operation

Final showdown threatened on West Bank

From Christopher Walker, Ramallah, March 25

The ground was laid today for a final showdown between the Israelis and West Bank supporters of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), when the Army issued summary dismissal orders to the two most radical of the remaining mayors elected by popular vote in 1976.

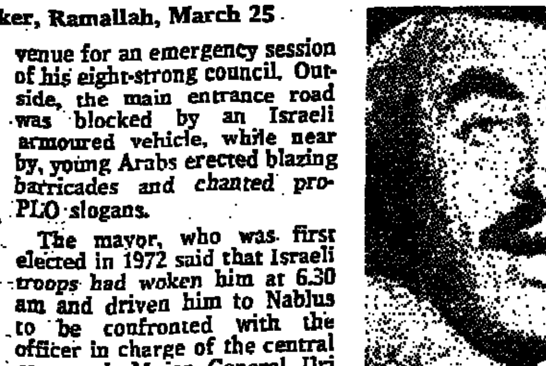
The dawn move against Mr Karim Khalef of Ramallah, and Mr Bassam Shaka of Nablus, was sanctioned personally by Mr Menachem Begin, the Prime Minister. It was accompanied by a significant raising of Israel's military profile in the West Bank, including the deployment of red-bereted soldiers from the crack paratroop unit.

Both mayors defiantly refused to sign the Israeli order sanctioning their dismissal. Later, Mr Khalef told *The Times*: "I am still the mayor of my town, elected by my people. The Israelis cannot alter that, or prevent my support for the PLO, our sole and legitimate representative."

Mr Khalef was speaking in an Anglican orphanage in Ramallah being used as a temporary venue for an emergency session of his eight-strong council. Outside, the main entrance road was blocked by an Israeli armoured vehicle, while near by, young Arabs erected blazing barricades and chanted pro-PLO slogans.

The mayor, who was first elected in 1972 said that Israeli troops had woken him at 6.30 am and driven him to Nablus to be confronted with the officer in charge of the central command, Major General Uri Orr. Mr Khalef then read from a lengthy document which he said was an Arabic translation of the accusations made against him, including membership of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine.

Amonk many Jews in Israel, the harsh action against the Arab mayors was also forcibly condemned. Mr Haim Bar-Lev, the secretary-general of the Opposition Labour Party, claimed that the right-wing Government's policy in the West Bank was based purely on force. He added that what the mayors thought or felt was their own business, and claimed that they should have been



Mr Khalef: "I am still mayor of my town'.

allowed to continne carrying out their elected tasks.

Other left-wing Israeli groups issued even more bitterly worded criticism. The Israeli Communist Party, with four Knesset members called on the Israeli president to use his influence to try to prevent the deportation of the two mayors—a move now widely feared among leading West Bankers.

Along with last week's dismissal of Mr Ibrahim Tawil of El-Bireh, the Israelis have now removed from office all three Palestinian mayors subjected to the still unsolved car bomb attacks in the summer of 1980. From the outset, the mayors have consistently blamed Israeli intelligence for involvement in the attacks, which left Mr Khalef and Mr Shaka crippled for life.

In political terms, today's dismissals represent the toughest Israeli action yet in the new policy of attempting to replace the existing West Bank leadership with local Arabs willing to cooperate with a limited autonomy scheme. It is widely expected to be followed by further sweeping measures against self-proclaimed PLO supporters in the main occupied towns.

A violent reaction from the Palestinians was swift, with the worst incident occurring in the occupied Gaza Strip, where an Israeli sergeant-major was killed and three soldiers injured when masked Arabs threw a grenade into their vehicle. Three local residents were also badly hurt in the blast.

The Army released no news of the death for many hours. But, later this afternoon, shortly before a military funeral, they named the dead man as Sergeant-Major Pinhas Grossmark, aged 30. Earlier troops launched an intensive search operation in the desert area, the scene of frequent lethal grenade attacks in the early 1970s.

In Ramallah and Nablus, the familiar pattern of stone throwing and barricade building began as news of the dismissals spread rapidly through the streets. I watched as Arab youths, their faces masked with *kefiyias* and woollen balaclavas, strangely reminiscent of Belfast, set light to burning tyres, sending clouds of choking, black smoke drifting over the deserted central bus station.

Many of the remaining 17 West Bank mayors were in urgent consultation: the official reasons for the dismissal of the two mayors could easily have applied to them. The two were dismissed because of "their activity of general agitation, non-recognition of the civil administration and repeated attempts to disrupt public order and normal governing, in accordance with PLO policy and directives".

Crisis for Israel, page 6

Simons Records: An apology

A recent report (March 5) about litigation over the "parallel imports" of records to Britain announced the payment of £250,000 in an out-of-court settlement to the British Phonographic Industry by Simons Records Ltd., Warren Records Ltd. and Simons Sales Stores Ltd. The headline wrongly described these three companies as "Record pirates", which we accept they are not and have never been.

In particular both Simons Records and Warren Records have substantial dealings with the UK record industry. Simons Sales Stores is a retail outlet. We apologize for this mistake and any embarrassment caused.

NEWS IN SUMMARY

Britain wants to cut seats across Atlantic

Britain wants to limit airline capacity across the Atlantic at what is likely to be a contentious meeting with United States Government negotiators next week (Michael Baily, Transport Correspondent, writes).

Both of Britain's Atlantic carriers, British Airways and British Caledonian, are losing money on a route on which a third of all seats were empty last year, and combined losses of all carriers exceeded $650m.

The idea of limiting capacity, which Britain sees as an effective way of making carriers pay, will not be popular. On the other hand there is a growing opinion in the United States the Mr Carter's "open skies" policy has not worked on international routes, and that some big American carriers like Pan American and Braniff could be next to collapse after Laker. So the approach will generate some sympathy.

Broadmoor man marries

Michael Bannister, aged 23, a Broadmoor patient, married Miss Chie Kawada, aged 28, a teacher, at Bracknell Register Office, Berkshire, yesterday as police mounted a large security operation. (Our Reading correspondent writes).

The Home Office gave special permission for the marriage, believed to be the first by a Broadmoor patient. Six members of the Prison Officer's Association, which had refused to accompany Bannister to the ceremony, provided an escort.

£175,000 car death award

Mrs Elizabeth Brooks, widow of Mr Robert Brooks, a surveyor and fine-art expert killed in a car crash, was awarded £175,000 agreed damages in the High Court yesterday.

Mr Brooks died in a head-on crash on the A34 at Abingdon, Oxfordshire in February, 1978. The other car driver Mr Richard St John Courtney, also died.

Mrs Brooks was given judgment, by consent, against the other driver's employers, British Aluminium Products Ltd.

Minister visits 'axed' dockyard

Mr Peter Blaker, Minister of State for the Armed Forces, said yesterday after visiting Portsmouth dockyard, which is to be run down with the loss of up to 6,000 jobs, that he has not been able to give the employees any good news, "but I was certainly able to understand their problems".

Russia takes up invitation

Mr Yuri Paulovich Davydov, a member of the Soviet Union's Academy of Sciences, is to address an anti-nuclear power conference in Manchester on April 16 at the invitation of the city council.

The United States has also been invited to send a speaker but the London embassy could not comment yesterday on what the response would be.

No closed-shop for ships

The Government has rejected a plea from the shipping industry to be made a special case under the *employment Bill and to be* allowed to maintain its union closed shop unconditionally.

Mr David Waddington, Under-Secretary of State for Employment, told a committee of MPs yesterday that a case for special treatment had not been made. However, he would be willing to hear arguments in favour of exemption during the Bill's committee stage.

Man dead in custody

Mr David Cunningham, aged 58, unemployed, of Ashley Road, St Paul's, Bristol, who was found dead in a cell at the city's Trinity Road police station yesterday, died of a fractured skull, a post-mortem examination has shown.

BR offers early retirement in job cutting move

By David Felton, Labour Reporter

British Rail has started offering early retirement to white-collar staff in an attempt to cut 3,000 posts in addition to the 7,000 jobs it was planning to shed by the end of the year.

Leaders of three rail unions were told about the cut in white-collar jobs last week and British Rail is to have an early meeting with the Transport Salaried Staffs Association (TSSA) whose members will be affected.

The announcement comes as the industry awaits the result of Lord McCarthy's tribunal into flexible rostering. Lord McCarthy is in Canada but he is due on Monday to meet the tribunal's assessors, who provide technical guidance, to decide whether he needs to make a tour of railway depots.

British Rail, TSSA and the National Union of Railwaymen (NUR) will try to dissuade him from visiting the depots to interview drivers and guards on flexible rostering because they want to see an early report. The Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen (Aslef) would welcome a tour of the depots and Lord McCarthy said at the end of last week's tribunal hearing that the visits might be necessary because he did not fully understand flexible rostering.

TSSA officials want an early meeting with British Rail to discuss the white-collar cuts, the effect of which will be felt in British Rail's Euston headquarters in London, five regional headquarters and 20 divisional offices.

Mr Tom Jenkins, union general secretary, said last night: "The wild men at the top level of the British Railways Board should cool down and not get into a panic."

He said there were procedures and machinery to handle the cuts being proposed. "I am concerned that in calling for volunteers for redundancy aged 55 and over that they could be oversubscribed. It could well be that senior and experienced staff needed to run the railways could opt to leave early."

Mr Jenkins said his union, in partnership with the other rail unions, had cooperated to reduce 14,000 jobs since May 1980. That saved about £6.5m a year in wages, and TSSA had recently completed consultation on reorganizing BR's financial accounting which, when fully implemented, would mean a loss of 1,150 salaried posts.

He said the union wanted to discuss with BR the further cuts. "We agree with productivity, but it has to be carried out in a proper and organized way through the machinery" he said.

BR said last night that a study of administration costs last year had highlighted areas where jobs could be cut without affecting the quality of the service. "It would be wrong to say that we are being panicked into this after the Aslef strikes".



Boys of Westminster School playing cricket while lobbyists stand outside Church House, where the Burnham Committee was discussing teachers' pay yesterday.

Haughey's £40m deal in Budget

From Our Correspondent Dublin

The Irish Republic's Government yesterday introduced a Budget much in line with its election promises and less severe than had been feared. It incorporated special measures for Dublin city, which were agreed by Mr Charles Haughey, the Prime Minister, in return for the crucial single vote of Mr Tony Gregory, an independent Dail member. The Gregory deal was costed at £40m.

The Budget was formulated to avoid the pitfalls which led to the Budget defeat of Dr Garret FitzGerald's coalition government in January. Consequently full food subsidies were maintained at a cost of £34m in the present year, the coalition's proposal to impose value-added tax on clothes and footwear was dropped, the £3,000 mortgage subsidy was restored to single people and the plan to tax short-term social welfare benefits was abandoned.

The January proposals which were kept included 14p on a gallon of petrol, in two stages, a 25 per cent increase in social welfare benefits and a tax on foreign travel. The travel tax will be a £2 levy on all cross-channel sea travellers between the republic and Britain and a £3 tax on all air passengers and sea travellers going farther than Britain. There will be a £50m boost to the building and construction industry and reduced interest rates for farmers in difficulty.

Personal tax allowances rise by £335 for single people to £1,450, and by £770 for a married couple to £2,900. Value Added Tax on books, including text books, is to be scrapped.

The measures will be paid for by a £20m bank levy, a 1 per cent levy on insurance company business, increased postal charges, increases in capital taxation, a special tax on speculative land deals in urban areas and the imposition of value-added tax on imports at the point of entry.

The special Dublin deal includes a task force to help old people living alone, a freeze on bus fares, and increased spending on urban renewal, house building and house improvements.

£3,090 for first edition of 'Ulysses'

Maggs, the antiquarian book dealers, celebrated the centenary of James Joyce's birth by paying £3,090 (estimate £1,800) for a first edition of *Ulysses* at Phillips yesterday (Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent, writes).

The copy sold yesterday was one of the 100 first editions signed by the author, published by Shakespeare and Company in Paris in 1922.

At Sotheby's Old Master drawings were keenly competed for leaving only 7 per cent of the sale unsold. An album of 40 sixteenth century architectural drawings on vellum secured the top price at £19,800 (estimate £10,000 to £15,000) paid by a Continental collector. They are the work of Jacques Androuet du Cerceau the Elder, the most prolific draughtsman and popularizer of architecture and decoration in Renaissance France.

Other notable prices included the £19,250 (estimate £5,000 to £7,000) paid by Tunick for a brush drawing of "St Marl" by Castiglione and the £18,700 (estimate £6,000 to £8,000) paid by Artemis for two views of figures among classical ruins by Panini.

Sotheby's of Chester had an unusual offering of carved and painted figures of Highlanders of the type popularly used to advertise eighteenth century tobacconists' shops.

An early nineteenth century Highlander carrying a snuff mull, raised on a plinth to a height of 35½ inches sold for £2,090 (estimate £1,000 to £1,500) to a Canadian collector. The same collector spent £2,035 (estimate £700 to £900) on a 28½ inch figure in a tam o'shanter of similar date and £1,705 (estimate £800 to £1,200) on a 38 inch tobacconist's figure of a Saracen or Turk.

The most notable eccentricities in Christie's sale of nineteenth century works of art were the French electroplated, gilt, silvered and enamelled busts of a Chinese man and woman dated 1853. She made £15,120 and he made £10,800, compared to Christie's estimates of £8,000 to £10,000 each.

Prior's assembly plan to go to Cabinet

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

The plan by Mr James Prior, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, for devolved government in Ulster passed another hurdle yesterday when ministers agreed that it should go to a meeting of the full Cabinet, possibly next week, for decision.

A short draft Bill and White Paper containing his proposals for setting up an assembly, to which powers would gradually be transferred under a system of "rolling devolution", were considered by the Cabinet's overseas and defence committee, chaired by Mrs Margaret Thatcher.

Various changes were suggested to Mr Prior by his colleagues, who included three former Ulster secretaries of state, Mr Humphrey Atkins, Mr Francis Pym and Mr William Whitelaw, although, it is understood they were points of detail rather than principle.

Mr Prior, answering questions later in the Commons, was notably cautious about his plans, emphasizing that no final decisions had been reached.

He is pressing hard, however, for legislation to be introduced in the present session, with elections to the assembly taking place in the autumn. If the Cabinet agrees to proceed, a statement is expected in the House before Easter.

The recently expressed opposition to the plans by the Official Unionists and the Social Democratic and Labour party did not surprise ministers and it is not thought to have weighed heavily in their consideration yesterday.

But some senior ministers remain to be convinced of the desirability of proceeding with legislation now, fearing that another failed initiative will be deeply damaging to the Government.

Mr Prior, however, is heartened by the fact that the Ulster political parties have indicated their wish to take part in the elections. He told the Commons: "I hope that this could be the start of an assembly, if that is the decision which is reached by the Government."

The Bill presented to the Cabinet committee contained Mr Prior's proposal for the 70 per cent weighted majority under which the assembly would act and which would have to be reached before any proposals to devolve powers from Westminster could be passed. Its object is to ensure that the Roman Catholic minority would have a say in assembly decisions.

Mr Prior told MPs yesterday: "If any government in Northern Ireland is to be stable, it must recognize there are two communities and seek to involve both communities in some sense in any devolved assembly. Otherwise, I do not believe it would have the stability that is required."

Self-help centre

A centre for teaching unemployed teenagers how to set up their own businesses was launched in Liverpool yesterday. The Merseyside Centre for Employment will provide facilities for 500 young people and will cost an estimated £1m a year to run.

Negligence judgment goes to Law Society

From Our Correspondent, Sheffield

Mr Justice Michael Davies, awarding agreed damages of £5,250 yesterday to a woman who alleged professional negligence by her solicitor directed that a transcript of his remarks should be sent to the law society.

Mrs Lorna Liggins, of Main Road, Darnell, Sheffield, claimed negligence by Mr Partick C. Crawley and Mr W. John DEan, trading as F. C. Crawley and Co at Bridge Street, Worksop, Nottinghamshire.

The judge said in the High Court in Sheffield: "I have never seen a clearer case of negligence by a solicitor, and I have seen a few in my time".

Mrs Liggins, an accident victim who employed Mr F. C. Crawley as her solicitor when seeking damages, had told the court that although she had been told that her claim was likely to be successful, the file was lost and could not be pursued because of the three-year time limit on such cases.

The defendants, represented by Mr J. Samuels agreed later to pay damages. Mr Samuels said that Mr Crawley had been overworked and could not challenge the evidence. He could not however, recall the negligence, which had never been in dispute.

The judge said: "He lost the file and misled her into thinking she was about to be paid substantial damages by the insurance company and fobbed her off until the three-year limit had expired".

Mr Justice Davies said: "Professional people should behave with a due sense of propriety and honour. The suggestion that she should go on with legal aid or borrow money to pursue [the original action] was not an honourable point for a professional man to make. It lies ill in the mouth of a solicitor who has lost the file to say she would not have succeeded if she had pursued the claim. Why should she dance to the tune of the solicitor's insurers?"

Giving judgment, the judge said that it would have been an honourable course for her orginal solicitor, and those who represented the solicitor were in the same category, to have sent an open letter admitting negligence. But not until Mr Melville Williams, QC, for the plaintiff, had opened the case, or thereabouts, had negligence been admitted.

He added: "The Law Society are trustees for money paid by solicitors for insurance, but solicitors are officers of the court and it is also their duty to behave fairly and honourably".

Mr Michael Napier, the solicitor now representing Mrs Liggins, said after the hearing "This is a most important case for the legal profession on the subject of insurance for professional negligence and the handling of claims against solicitors".

Belvoir decision is setback for Coal Board

By Jonathan Davis, Energy Correspondent

Although the Department of Energy and the National Coal Board were putting a brave face on it last night, there is no doubt that the Belvoir decision will delay, and may jeopardize some parts of the board's plans to expand production of new and cheaper coal from modernized pits.

Development of the North-east Leicestershire coalfield has always been a central element of the board's strategy of bringing into production a new generation of more efficient pits designed to replace, and in some cases supplement, coal from high-cost fields.

The plan, which had the backing of the Department of Energy, was to follow development of the Vale of Belvoir with developments in areas such as Warwickshire, Oxfordshire, Scotland and east Yorkshire.

Although considerable doubts about the need for all this new coal were raised during the public inquiry, yesterday's decision by Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, has certainly not killed off the plans as an outright rejection of the Belvoir proposals would probably have done, but it will make their implementation much slower.

The view at the department's headquarters in Millbank is that the coal board will be able to resubmit a revised and smaller plan for North-east Leicestershire fairly quickly. Officials hope that this may not involve a delay of much more than a year, although it is likely to take rather longer.

One of the board's main complaints has been the time it has taken for the Government to reach a decision, a delay that has not been helped by the clash between the environment and energy departments. The need for the board and other parties to discuss alternative methods of disposing of waste from the pit will inevitably add the the cost of the Belvoir project, as well as delaying it further.

Although the proposed mine at Hose, the biggest of the three which the board wanted to sink to develop the North-east Leicestershire field, has been rejected, that does not necessarily mean that the recoverable reserves from the field will be reduced, since it may be possible to mine the coal from the other surface locations.

The plans envisaged producing 7.2 million tonnes a year from the field, and eventually recovering more than 500 million tonnes of coal of the 1,000 to 1,400 million tonnes of coal available.

One of the board's main arguments in favour of developing the Leicestershire fields was its cheapness compared with the cost of coal from traditional pits. Although cost figures have not yet been released, the board estimated that productivity would be over eight tonnes a manshift compared with an average of two and a half tonnes per manshift at the board's existing fields.

Opponents of the plans concentrated more on attacking the need for the coal that Belvoir is entended to produce in the 1990s. The board's forecast that demand would probably reach 170 million tonnes by the year 2,000 — over 40 million tonnes a year more than it now produces — has been made to look very optimistic with the recession and the fall in demand for all energy in the past two years. The board is producing about 10 million tonnes a year more than it can sell.

Man killed himself after police questioning

A company director who had been questioned about the alleged murder of his wife killed himself by jumping into the path of a lorry, an inquest jury decided yesterday.

Mr Terence Paul Rowan-Prust, aged 35, was arrested and questioned for three days last December about the death of his wife, Elizabeth, who fell on a bonfire in front of her son, aged two, on November 5, 1980.

Mr Arthur Marshall, deputy assistant coroner, told the inquest in Leeds that Mr Rowan Prust was struck by the lorry on December 10, the day after he was bailed. He died four days later.

He said that Mr Rowan-Prust, of Invertrees Avenue, Rawdon, Leeds, received a £63,000 insurance pay-out after his wife's death.

Mr Stephen Bedford, a lorry driver, said in a statement after the accident that Mr Rowan-Prust "deliberately jumped in front of my vehicle".

Diary entries written by Mr Rowan-Prust were read to the jury. In one he wrote to his dead wife: "I do not know if I can live without you, my love. Will God forgive me if I kill myself to be with you?"

Mrs Pamela Brown, with whom Mr Rowan-Prust lived after his wife's death, said he had been "totally destroyed" by her loss and by subsequent police questioning.

Det Supt John Conboy said Mr Rowan-Prust was released so that further inquiries could be made and a report sent to the Director of Public Prosecutions. He said the investigation was brought about because of information supplied by a lawyer in Leeds. He agreed that Mr Rown-Prust had adamantly protested his innocence.

The jury returned a verdict that Mr Rowan-Prust "threw himself into the path of an oncoming lorry whilst the balance of his mind was disturbed and that he killed himself".

Ringing the changes

British Telecom is to introduce this standard push-button telephone, no more expensive than a dial phone, in the autumn (Clive Cookson writes). The first year's supply, 1.2 million telephones, will be ordered from three British manufacturers, GEC, Plessey and TMC (Philip's telecommunications subsidiary).

Each company will receive a £2m contract to make 400,000 telephones, known until now by their codename IXT (inexpensive telephone). They are likely to be presented to consumers as the Konsort.

Father of Helen Smith in courtroom protest

By Michael Horsnell

An attempt by Mr Ronald Smith to force an inquest into the death of his daughter, the British nurse who died during an illegal drinking party in Saudi Arabia three years ago, ended in uproar yesterday when he stormed out of the High Court claiming that the *hearing had been "prejudged".*

Mr Smith, aged 56, a former police officer who claims his daughter, Miss Helen Smith, was murdered, was attending a judicial review of his plea for an inquest after a decision last August by Mr Philip Gill, the West Yorkshire coroner, that the case did not fall within the jurisdiction of an English inquest.

Mr Smith's walk-out came after an exchange between Mr Stephen Sedley, his counsel, who submitted that the presence of Miss Smith's body within Mr Gill's area was the foundation of his jurisdiction, and the two judges Mr Justice Forbes and Lord Justice Ormrod.

Mr Justice Forbes made the point that such an argument could mean that if a coroner had been told about the presence of Egyptian treasures in his area he could order an inquest into the death of King Tutankhamun.

Shortly after the walk-out the judges reserved judgment on the ground of the complexities of the case.

The body of Miss Smith, aged 23, was found outside a block of flats occupied by staff of the hospital where she worked in Jiddah in May 1979. The Saudi authorities said that she and a Dutch tug captain fell accidentally to their deaths from the balcony of a top-floor apartment.

Mr Sedley earlier told the court that Mr Gill had twice before held inquests into Britons who had died abroad, and that although there might be practical difficulties which may have a bearing on the verdict they should have no effect on the jurisdiction to hold an inquest.

Science report

Interferon helps in hepatitis treatment

By Pearce Wright Science Editor

Acute cases of infectious hepatitis have been treated successfully in uncontrolled trials using one of the family of interferon compounds. The results are reported by Dr Stanley Levin and Dr Talia Hahn, of the Kaplan Hospital at Rehovot, Israel, in *The Lancet*, and they suggest that interferon should be given a large scale trial as an early treatment for severe viral hepatitis.

The treatment was given to six patients who failed to respond to any other form of therapy, but who were also shown by biochemical tests not to be producing interferon naturally because of the infection.

The mechanism by which the body produces this substance is activated only when the body is attacked by a virus. The first healthy cells invaded by a virus try to fend off the infection before being destroyed, and as they are generating interferon for this purpose they also send a biochemical early warning message to neighbouring cells to start producing interferon.

Earlier research at the National Institute for Health at Bethesda, in the United States, and at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine discovered that occasionally the defence mechanism in some individuals does not spring into action, even though it has no apparent defect.

Analyses of patients' blood at the Kaplan Hospital indicated those conditions. The treatment that Dr Levin and Dr Hahn prescribed was intended to activate the natural interferon production system. The stimulation was effective in five of the six patients, and three made rapid and uncomplicated recoveries from a very advanced stage illness.

Source: *Lancet* No 8272, March, 1982.

CIGARETTE SALES PLAN ANGERS ASH

By A Staff Reporter

The anti-smoking pressure group, Action on Smoking and Health (Ash) is to make an urgent complaint to Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Social Services, about what it calls the tobacco industry's incredible irresponsibility.

The move comes after publication in *The Times* on Wednesday of details of a marketing campaign prepared for a leading cigarette company which discussed ways of encouraging young people to smoke. The information was contained in an unpublished section of a United States report drawn up by the Federal Trade Commission. In it a marketing company tells Brown and Williamson, a subsidiary of the British firm, British American Tobacco Industries, to present cigarettes to young people as part of "the illicit pleasure category" relating it to "pot", alcohol and sex and to avoid mentioning health.

Mr David Simpson, director of Ash, said: "We must demonstrate to Mr Fowler how the tobacco industry wants to sell cigarettes above all other considerations".

GLC 'never thought of pruning'

By Donald Walker

The Greater London Council never considered cutting its spending as an alternative to imposing a heavy burden on ratepayers, the Divisional Court was told yesterday, when the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea asked the court for the GLC's rates precept for 1982-83 to be ruled illegal.

Mr Anthony Scrivener, QC, for the borough, told Mr Justice McNeill that the GLC's rates had been calculated on the basis that it would cover any shortfall in its government grant. But it needed that reserve only because it had refused throughout the proceedings to consider spending reductions.

Kensington's case is that the GLC's 1982-83 budget contains £34.6m of illegal and unreasonable spending. If its case is upheld, the finance of London local government will be thrown into chaos for the second time in five months. The hearing continues today.

Overseas selling prices

Austria Sch 22; Bahrain 60 0.650; Belgium B Frs 40; Canada $2.50; Canaries Pes 125; Cyprus 350 mils; Denmark Dkr 9; Dubai Dhr 7.00; Finland Mkk 7.00; France Frs 7.00; Germany DM 3.50; Greece Dr 60; Holland Gl 3.25; Iran Rl 125; Irish 1p 0.500; Italy L 1800; Jordan Fils 0.450; Kuwait KD 0.500; Lebanon LL 4.00; Luxembourg Lf 35; Madeira Esc 70; Malta 35c; Morocco Dir 7; Norway Kr 7.00; Oman Ro 0.700; Pakistan Rs 12; Portugal Esc 70; Qatar QR 7.00; Saudi Arabia Rs 6.50; Singapore $5.00; Spain Pes 100; Sweden Kr 7.00; Switzerland S Frs 3.00; Syria £S 7.00; Tunisia Dm 800; USA $2.00; UAE Dir 7.00; Yugoslavia Din 80.

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Leeds prison conditions 'are deplorable'

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

The Chief Inspector of Prisons has described conditions in Leeds Prison as deplorable. A report published yesterday expresses "extreme disquiet". Overcrowding in the prison is said to be as bad as the inspection team had ever observed.

"Life is a daily struggle for survival as the numbers are juggled in an endeavour to make room for the fresh influx which the evening will bring", the chief inspector's report says.

"Leeds has been variously described as 'a human warehouse', 'a great penal transit camp' and the 'Clapham junction of the North', all these descriptions are accurate."

There are not enough sanitary recesses on each wing; the bath-house could provide only 16 baths and showers for 1,20 men; the water supply failed almost daily because the storage tanks could no longer meet the demand; the drains became clogged; the visiting facilities were hopelessly congested; and the hospital was inappropriately sited; The report add that more than 300 men could not be found employment and spent their days in idleness in overcrowded cells.

Even when improvements the report recommends have been done, the remaining facilities would be so inadequate that the population should be reduced. There were still some inmates in the prison hospital who would be more appropriately accommodated in local mental hospitals.

Through no fault of local management, inmates of the prison were living, and staff were working, in conditions degrading to both. But the high morale and rapport between staff and prisoners was said to be impressive.

The report says: "The prison is a humane, efficient conveyor belt, but we consider it highly undesirable that a prison should have to function like a production line".

The number of prisoners aged under 21 was growing and was estimated to be three times as high as on April, 1980. The report says the quality of the unconvicted prisoner was worse than for the convicted.

On the first day of the inspection, the total population was 1,193, instead of the 612 Leeds prison was supposed to hold. The staff were not "entirely successful" in moving the entire prison population once a week through the bath-house on "a dirty and primitive basement area".

A new hospital should be provided the report says, while the inspection tean were not entirely happy with the pharmacy.

A statement from the Home Secretary yesterday said that bathing facilities at Leeds were being improved, young prisoners who had been sentenced were to be moved out of the prison, and the opening of Frankland prison would lessen overcrowding. Hospital facilities were recognized as being "quite inappropriate" and the provision of a new one would be considered.

The author of the report was the late Mr W. H. Pearce, whose memorial service was held on Tuesday.

HM Prison Leeds Report, by HM Chief Inspector of Prisons (Home Office £1.10).

Former gang chiefs petition No 10

Former, London gang leaders who say they have put their past behind them yesterday pledged support for a petition on law and order to the Prime Minister. Mr Eddie Richardson, brother of Charles Richardson, said he believed the deterrent was being caught, not the prison sentence. Mr Bobby Welch, one of the train robbers, is also backing the campaign. He got a 30-year sentence but was released on parole in 1976.

The party presenting the petition at Downing Street yesterday included one of the lesser known Morey gang, Mr Bill Morey; three black youngsters who had been in various kinds of trouble with the law, and a former sergeant in the Pay Corps, who got a five-year sentence for the theft of £5,000.

The petition, with its 30 signatures was organized by the Apex Trust, which helps former offenders to find employment. It said that tougher policing and stiffer sentencing penalties would not reduce the crime level.

'21 murder attempts on policemen'

□ There were 21 attempts last year to murder policemen in the Strathclyde region, Mr Patrick Hamill, the area's Chief Constable, said yesterday, the Press Association reports.

More than 2,000 officers were assaulted and criminals were arming themselves against the law, he said.

After two years in which crime figures had remained almost static, he reported an increase of more than 12 per cent, giving a total of 223,685 crimes recorded.

Violent crime, particularly mugging, was increasing.

Whale hunt ban on Japan avoided

From Nicholas Timmins
Brighton

The conservationist countries in the International Whaling Commission (INC) yesterday backed off from any attempt to impose a ban on the hunting of sperm whales by Japan.

Instead the commission, without taking a vote, deferred the question to its annual meeting in July. This is the first time that the conservation countries, which now have the majority necessary to impose their view on the whaling nations, have avoided putting the issue to the vote, and the decision may mark a watershed in the commission's affairs.

Fears that Japan would exercise its right to object to a ban and continue hunting whales lay partly behind the decision. But since last year's commission meeting there have also been objections from Japan and other whaling countries to a ban imposed on the use of the cold harpoon to kill smaller whales.

Some of the conservation countries now seem to fear that if they simply impose their views on the whaling nations, more objections will be lodged, the commission's decisions will beome increasingly meaningless and the whole procedure will become unworkable.

Instead, they feel, progress may have to be made more through consensus than confrontation.

So far that seems to be a minority view among the conservation countries and confrontation tactics may return. But a significant indication of the change of attitude came from The Nertherlands, in the past a front-line conservation nation.

Mr Fer von der Assen, its commissioner, in his opening statement at the meeting in Brighton, appealed for the objection procedure to be used as little as possible.

The conservationist countries are hampered in their attempt to stop Japan taking 890 sperm whales off its coast by the fact that scientific evidence is far from clear on whether the hunt should cease.

The evidence shows that even if no whales are taken, certain sections of the whale population will shortly decline to the level where under the Commissions rule the stock should be protected.

In the mid-1990s, however, it will recover. Allowing the Japanese to take 890 whales a year until then would simply delay the recovery for a year or two.

Japan argues that taking 890 whales from a population which numbers, at the minimum, 200,000adult whales will do no damage.



Lord Crawshaw, chairman of the Quorn Hunt, getting an enthusiastic welcome from a hound yesterday.

Protest over move to stop hunting

Hundreds of hunt followers and huntsmen from Britain's premier hunts converged on Leicestershire County Hall yesterday in an attempt to stop a plan by Labour councillors to ban hunting on council- owned land in the county (Our Leicestershire Correspondent writes).

Huntsmen and whippers-in from nine packs paraded in full livery before handing in a petition with 12,500 signatures to Conservative county councillors.

The Labour councillors' proposal to ban hunting on 10,000 acres comes just weeks after the Co-operative Wholesale Society banned hunting on 4,500 acres of its land in Leicestershire.

The matter will be debated by the council on Wednesday. Taking part in the protest were the Leicestershire Alliance of Hunts, made up of the Quorn, Fernie, Belvoir, Cottesmore, Atherstone and Pytchley fox hounds, together with the Oakley Foot Beagles, North Warwickshire Beagles and Westerby Bassett Hounds.

The proposal was put forward by Mr Charles Wrigley, a councillor and a Loughborough University lecturer, who believes foxhunting is "a cruel form of entertainment disguised as pest control".

Major Charles Humfrey, Secretary of the Quorn Hunt, added: "If this proposal should go through, fishing and shooting would be the next to go."

Tories oppose immigration rule

By Lucy Hodges

Six Conservative MPs objected to the Government's immigration rule which prevents British women who are not born here or who do not have a parent born here from bringing in their foreign husbands or fiances.

They tabled an early-day motion in which they said they believed that the rule breached the European Convention on Human Rights. There are seven cases before the Europen Commission of Human Rights in Strasbourg which are due for a formal hearing on May 10.

The cases have been taken up by the Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants and the National Council for Civil Liberties, which complains that the immigration rule discriminates on the grounds of race and sex. British men who were not born here and do not have a parent born here are able to bring foreign wives and fiancees into the country. Mr Cyril Townsend, Conservative MP for Bexley, Bexleyheath, who resigned his post of parliamentary private secretary in December 1979, when the rule was introduced, urged the Government to change it.

"I think it is directly contrary to the European Convention", he said. "I do not think the law and order party should go out of its way to break that convention."

The other MPs were Mr John Wilkinson, MP for Hillingdon, Ruislip-Northwood and chairman of the Anglo-Asian Conservative Association, Mr Robert Hicks, (Bodmin), Mr David Knox, (Leek), Mr Stephen Dorrell, (Loughborough), and Mr John Watson, (Skipton).

The Home Office is reviewing the immigration rules after the passing of the Nationality Act, and the MPs hope for a change in that review. It is thought the Government may change the rule because of the strong possibility that the European Commission will find against it.

Retirement at 63 could cost £1,600m

By Pat Healy, Social Services Correspondent

Equalizing retirement age at 63 for men and women while introducing lower pensions for those retiring between the ages of 60 and 63 could cost as much as £1,600m a year.

That is estimated in an unpublished note prepared by officials at the Department of Health and Social Security for the Commons Select Committee on Social Services.

The officials emphasize that many of their figures are no more than "speculative guessimates", partly because there is no way of telling how many women would work on beyond the age of 60 or how many men would retire before reaching the age of 63. But they say the indications are that the continuing increase in net costs to public funds would be about £500m a year at present pension levels.

The figures are based on a new scheme combining the idea of "parties" pensions with flexible retirement, ideas that are under discussion in the select committee's study of the age of retirement.

The scheme assumes that the normal pension age would be 63 for men and women, baut they could choose to retire between 60 and 63. Early retirers would be subject to an earnings rule that is more generous than the existing one which applies to people for the first five years after normal retirement age. Their pensions would also be reduced if they retired early, by 24 per cent at age 60, 16 per cent at age 61 and 8 per cent at age 62.

People retiring at age 63 would not face a retirement test, nor an earnings rule and the present system of increments to pensions for later retirers would be abolished.

If half the people eligible to retire between the ages of 60 and 63 did so, the net cost would be £1,600m a year. If only a quarter did so, the net cost would be £1,100m including savings of £250m a year from the higher pension age for women.

But there would be a further £500m to £1000m added each year to net costs because of the numbers opting to retire early on lower pensions, the ending of the earnings rule and the abolition of increments to pensions. It would take about 30 years for these costs to reach a break-even point, but the heavy early year costs of paying lower pensions to men and women between the ages of 60 and 63 should break even after 10 years.

NEWS IN SUMMARY

Big typhoid outbreak confirmed

Health officials confirmed yesterday that there had been a " Large outbreak" of typhoid in Southampton. They said the disease was confined to one family group, and two food shops run by adult members of the group have been closed as precaution

Officials emphasized that there was no cause for alarm, as the disease was confined to children in the family. A woman in her late twenties, who has been confirmed as the carrier, and 15 children were in hospital yesterday.

Test have confirmed that five children have the disease, and the remainder are being treated in case they have.

The outbreak is one of the Largest in recent times, but Dr John Dawe, the district community physician said that was because the family group four Asian families living in two houses, was so large.

Vicar bailed in wounding case

The Rev William Cecil Heatley, vicar of St Anthony's church, Sanderstead, Surrey, who is accused of unlawfully and maliciously wounding one of his parishioners, was remanded on bail for a month after telling Croydon magistrates that his solicitor was on holiday and could not appear for him.

Mr Heatley, aged 42, was accused of maliciously wounding Mr Albert John Mallender, aged 56, at his home in Ansley Close, Sanderstead, on January 30.

Six students die in car crash

Six male overseas students died when their car crashed in the grounds of a college near Grantham, Lincolnshire, yesterday. Their car hit a fence, brick wall and a gatepost on the mile-long private drive leading to Harlaxton Manore, Britiah campus of the University of Evansville Indiana in the United States.

Two of the victims were from Oman, two from Nigeria, one from Turkey and one from Libya.

New private hospital

BUPA has been given planning permission for a £4.5m hospital with 56 beds at Colney, near Norwich, in spite of protests that it would "cream off" National Health Service staff when a new NHS hospital was being opened at Gorleston, Norfolk.

Disabled to get tax refund

By Our Social Services Correspondent

Thousands of disabled people are to share a tax rebate of between £2m and £2.5m after a recent High Court decision that the tax paid on mobility allowance before 1979 was illegal. The money is to be repaid in spite of the fact that the legal move was made too late.

In a letter to Mr Alfred Morris, Labour MP for Manchester, Wythenshawe, the Chancellor of the Exchequer says he will allow the tax collected in the four years before 1979 to be repaid.

The repayments will be made automatically in most cases. The Inland Revenue is trying to identify people already paying tax on their mobility allowance in order to implement the Budget decision to exempt it from tax from next month.

That trawl will not, however, identify those people no longer paying tax because their total income is too low. Disabled people who have not received a repayment by July 5 are being urged to claim back tax owing by the end of the year.

PROBATION FOR KILLING WIFE

Walter Hinton, who killed his nagging wife, walked free from Nottingham Crown Court yesterday. He was placed on probation for three years. Mr Justice Drake told Hinton, aged 57, an electricity board worker: "Reports show that you are a shy, gentle person who goes to great pains not to offend others. For very many years you tolerated an unhappy marriage, hoping matters would improve. You were finally taken beyond breaking point."

Hinton, of Dallimore Road, Kirk Hallam, Derbyshire, pleaded guilty to the manslaughter of his wife, Violet, aged 51, in September last year. His plea of not guilty to murder was accepted by the prosecution.

Mr Percy Grieve, QC, for the prosecution, said there had been constant bickering during the marriage. On September 1 Hinton had strangled his wife at the end of a day during which he had suffered persistent abuse.

The Ulster murders

Another tragedy for a famous regiment

By Henry Stanhope, Defence Correspondent

Although yesterday's shootings brought the Army its first fatalities in Northern Ireland for six months, it was the third disaster in less than a year for The Royal Green Jackets, one of Britain's most famous regiments.

Four of its men were Killed, with a driver from the Royal Corps of Transport, when their Saracen armoured troop carrier was blown up by a bomb in south Armagh last May. A fifth died in a another incident two months later.

Yesterday's murders raised the number of men from the regiment who have been killed in Northern Ireland since 1969 to 28, two of them officers. It came, as has so often happened, when the 2nd battalion was approaching the end of its four-and-a-half-month emergency tour of duty in Springfield Road and soldiers were looking forward to returning to their families based at Minden, West Germany.

For many riflemen it could well be their last tour in Ulster, where the number of troops is down to 10,550, about half the peak figure reached at the time of Operation Motorman in 1972. Of the nine leading units serving there at any one time only three are now serving on short-term emergency tours.

The Royal Green Jackets regiment has existed in its present form since 1966 after an amalgamation of three historic units, the Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire Light Infantry, the King's Royal Rifle Corps and the Rifle Brigade.

It is one of the Army's largest regiments with three battalions, all of which belong for recruiting and administrative purposes to the Light Division, and has its headquarters at Winchester, Hampshire.

In character, the regiment is unashamedly elitist, both socially and professionally. Socially, its officers' status is indicated by their eligibility to join the Cavalry and Guards Club. Intellectually, however, it likes to think that it has no equals among the Army's "teeth" arms — its success in winning top jobs on the General Staff has certainly been remarkable.

General Sir Edwin Bramall now Chief of the General Staff, himself belongs to the "Black Mafia", which is the regiment's ironic Army sobriquet

Army officers have often been bitter in the past about any claims from either their own superiors or the RUC of a successful campaign against the IRA.

The number of soldiers who have so far died in Northern Ireland is now 348, and the number of injured is 3,422. The worst year for fatalities was 1972 when 103 were killed, followed by 1973, when the total was 58.

Private buses 'forced out'

From Tim Jones, Cardiff

The first private operator in Britain to win the right to compete with a local authority on the same bus routes has ceased operation after 11 months.

Mr Keith Morris's company, CK Coaches, ran 18 buses in Cardiff. He claimed last night that the company had been forced off the road by unfair competition. He said the council responded to his service by saturating the routes with extra buses and by subsidizing unrealistically low tenders for school and other transport.

"It is the ratepayers' money that caused us to stop. The council has beeen using the rates to give us extreme competition", he said.

Mr Max Phillips, chairman of the council's transport committee, said: "The allegations about unfair tendering are nonsense. O ur aim is to run the most efficient service we can.

"The government seemed to think that competition would solve all problems but that philosophy is only good in a profit-making sector. This government is the only one in Europe that does not recognize that bus services are a so cial service."

CK Coaches, which broke a 50-year monopoly in Cardiff, operated at one time with fares up to 19p, cheaper than the city buses. The council replied with an off-peak maximum fare of 20p.

Thirlmere's boat ban will remain

By Ronald Faux

The saga of Thirlmere, the Cumbrian lake that supplies Manchester with water, is about to come full circle.

The lake was turned into a reservoir in the 1880s against strong local opposition. Even the bishops of Manchester and Carlisle went on the attack from opposite sides of the argument, and the chairman of the Manchester Waterworks Committee and a city aldermen crawled one wet day past the windows of Dale Head Hall, to avoid being tackled by the squire, on their way to the edge of the lake.

Manchester's industrial thirst was understood but many resented the intrusion and the flooding of the countryside. Since then, the North-west Water Authority has been criticized for isolating a fine stretch of the Lake District with "keep out" signs.

No one is allowed near the waterline, except water board staff who have been cleared as possible typhoid carriers, and nothing is allowed to float on the lake.

But with improved treatment processes and a new plant to be built near Bolton through which Thirlmere water will pass, the Lake District Planning Board has the chance of opening the lake and the surrounding forest to the public. However, it seems that is not to be.

A subcommittee of the board has voted against allowing sailing craft on the reservoir and that decision is likely to be ratified at a full board meeting on Monday. Experience on other lakes has apparently bred such an aversion to boats that not even sailing boats without engines are to be allowed on the surface of Thirlmere.

A water board official said the treatment plant was not being built solely to open up Thirlmere as a recreation area but because it was appropriate for the source of water.

Newspaper to close

The two-year-old *Evening Herald* at Chelmsford, Essex, owned by Essex-Chronicle Series, Ltd, is to cease publication on April 16. The management said yesterday that job losses would number fewer than 60.

New stop and search powers for police

LAW AND ORDER

New police powers to fight crime were announced by Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, in the Commons debate on law and order.

He said there was a case to extend police powers, particularly by rationalizing existing powers to stop and search for stolen goods and by introducing powers to stop and search people for offensive weapons and to search premises for evidence in difficult cases.

Mr Whitelaw said he intended to bring forward proposals for legislation on these lines. He would also take the earliest suitable on these lines. He would also take the earliest suitable legislative opportunity to debar from juries anyone convicted of an imprisonable offence during the past 10 years. The law at present debars those who have served prison sentences of three months or more.

Mr Roy Hattersley, Opposition spokesman on home affairs, opening the debate, said the crime rate would be reduced by reestablishing the old relationship between the police and the public. The old police foot patrol should be reestablished. It provided a deterrent to criminals, a reassurance to citizens, and a practical source of vital information.

Since 1979 the number of serious crimes had increased year by year, and at the same time the number of arrests had fallen. More important was the fact that there had been a massive reduction in the number of crimes cleared up.

It was a simplistic solution to encourage the belief that crime could be swiftly reduced and criminals assuredly caught by tough penalties and perhaps even by tough talk. That view was obviously absurd. Punishment only became an effective deterrent when the criminal believed that arrest was certain and conviction inevitable.

The major problem facing crime and the crime figures was the confidence of criminals that they would be neither caught nor punished, and if they believed that, argument about whether their sentences were seven or 10 years never passed through their minds.

Calls for the rod and the birch, which were wrong in principle, had another disadvantage. They were dangerous and facile alternatives to facing the facts and to taking the practical decisions which would reduce the level of crime.

The first fact to be accepted was the relationship between increasing crime and increasing unemployment. Did the Home Secretary believe in the relationship between unemployment and crime, about which he was so eloquent in 1978? If he did believe that, was it not an obvious fact that the increase in crime which had plagued the country for the past two years was in no small measure the result of the Government's economic policies?

Mr William Whitelaw, Home Secretary, intervened to say that neither the Prime Minister nor he had ever denied that unemployment was a factor, but it was not the sole factor.

Mr Hattersley said that the Prime Minister had asserted it was not a factor on the night of the Brixton riots, and on other occasions, and he was glad that progress was now being made.

The police had become more remote from the communities they served. They had become less visible and less associated with those communities. That process had begun almost 20 years ago when the idea of cost-effective policing became the vogue.

The relationship that should be reestablished between the police and the public would not come about until there had been general acceptance of the need to "et police back among the public.

The number of the police forces had been reduced 15 years ago from 123 to 41 areas. Fewer forces had made the police more cost effective but more remote.

The second and more radical which needed to come about was the establishment of police committees in the provinces and in London made up of elected men and women who were represented the opions of the people who police served and who were responsible for the overall policies of the police in their areas.

He did not want those police committees to have responsibility for day-to-day operational matters, nor to have the slightest influence on prosecution policy which should be in the hands of a national prosecution service.

There were some decisions which ought not to be taken by a chief officer, who was answerable to no one and was required to justify his decision to no one. Fundamental decisions, such as equipping a force with anti-riot gear, which were likely to affect the lives of people in an entire police area, should not be made by one man alone, no matter how senior or experienced.

An elected police authority responsive to and dependent on the local community, would be a major influence in preserving policing by consent and bring the police on the streets and encourage the right attitude to policing the inner cities.

The relationship he sought already existed in some areas, such as Birmingham, where the low key role maintained by the police had stopped riots such as had occurred in London and Liverpool.

He feared the Home Secretary was being lulled into action which would alienate the police from the public in a way that made the prevention of crime and the conviction of criminals much more difficult.

A massive campaign was being mounted to convince the Home Secretary that all that was needed was tougher police powers and more stringent punishments.

The Opposition would not support the introduction of powers of the sort recommended by the Royal Commission on Criminal Procedure to extend powers to stop and search, compulsory fingerprinting of children, holding suspects without charge and arresting anyone who refused to give his name and address.

That could only result in the deterioration of the relationship between the police and public and a consequent increase, not reduction, in crime.

On March 10 the Commissioner for the Metropolis had published figures of crimes of violence analysed by the race of the assailant as perceived by the victim.

On reflection the Home Secretary would surely understand the damage the gratuitous publication of those figures had done. How would it appear when MPs tried to assure the black British ethnic minorities and Asian families that the police in most cases were on their side? Confidence must have been undermined by that single action.

Mr Whitelaw, said the Government inherited a depleted and demoralized police service. Rewards for an enormously difficult task were inadequate and the rapid loss of experienced officers threatened police effectiveness. That situation had been transformed.

The police had adapted their operational techniques to overcome the methods of the most highly organized criminals operating at national and international level.

In relation to terrorism, public order, highly organized crime and the most serious crimes there was a record of action and success of which the police could be proud and the public reassured.

The recent decision by the Metropolitan Police Commissioner to publish figures on the racial appearance of people involved in street robbery had been criticized on the grounds of the harm that these figures might do to race relations. He disagreed. (Conservative cheers). It was better for such problems to be discussed in terms of the facts rather than rumours. (Renewed Conservative cheers).

Some 900 officers had already been returned to beat duty in addition to those already deployed and the Commissioner had further plans for another 300 men to be put back on the beat.

In tackling local crime, prevention was crucial. This had been undervalued by many householders and businesses. It did not cost a lot to instal improved defences to make the criminal's job harder.

A realistic strategy against crime must recognize that it was a problem for all the community and could not be left to the determined efforts of the police alone.

MPs had a duty to ensure that the police were provided with the legal powers they needed to discharge the heavy and difficult responsibilities put on them. These powers must be accompanied by due safeguards for the citizen.

He accepted the case put by Royal Commission on Criminal Procedure for some extension of police powers, in particular by rationalizing the existing powers to stop and search for stolen goods and by introducing powers to stop and search people for offensive weapons and to search premises for evidence in difficult cases. He would bring forward proposals for legislation on those lines.

Amid the focus on crime in recent weeks there had been calls for institutional changes, some of them pointing in contrary directions. While the opposition supported Lord Scarman's report they appeared to sidestep the principle recommendation that the Home Secretary should remain the police authority for the metropolis.

He did not believe it would be responsible to set aside a major local and national responsibility of the Metropolitan Police to be accountable to a senior cabinet minister, nor to blur this clear line of important accountability to the House.

There had been sterile debate about hard and soft policing. The range of activities he had outlined in improving effectiveness, the major successes the police had achieved, and the complex problems they faced could not be summed up in these terms. Such debate was irrelevant and misleading.

The effectiveness of the police depended upon and was inseparable from the effectiveness of the criminal justice system as a whole. MPs needed to concern themselves also with the working of the courts and services which dealt with convicted offenders.

Much anxiety had been expressed, justifiably, on the integrity of the jury system and the need to exclude from juries people who had themselves been convicted of crime. The present law debarred those who within the past 10 years had served prison sentences of three months or more.

It is our view (he said) that the area of disqualification must be widened so as to include anyone convicted of an imprisonable offence during the past 10 years.

Juries should be representative of the law-abiding community and he intended to bring forward proposals on this line and to take the earliest suitable legislative opportunity.

Maximum penalties for particular criminal offences were fixed by Parliament. Within this maximum, an individual sentence was decided by the courts. The independent role of judges and magistrates in sentencing was vital to maintain public confidence in the criminal justice system. It would be a bad day if that power were ever to pass to politicians.

For serious offences, the existing law aleady provided maximum penalties higher than most people supposed. The most serious crimes of violence like manslaughter, rape, robbery with firearms to resist arrest, already carried maximum life sentences. Other offences like burglary, handling stolen goods, and trafficking in certain things, had a maximum of 14 years.

I know (he said) courts are aware of the feeling of the House and the public at large that violent criminals should receive substantial terms of imprisonment.

The Government was providing the courts with realistic alternatives to detention centres or custody and enabling them to be more discriminating in their use of custodial sentences.

It was also strengthening their powers to bring home to parents, where necessary, their responsibility for their children's wrongdoing.

The Government was enabling a greater number of offenders to be dealt with outside prison by increasing the number of detention centres and giving extra resources to the probation service. But for those offenders whom the courts found it necessary to send to prison, places must be provided.

This Government had substantially increased the resources available for the prison system, the prison building programme, and would produce 5,000 new places in the 1980s. The construction of eight new prisons was to start in the period 1981-85 and the Government was spending £50m this year, with more to come, on redevelopment, refurbishing and repairs in existing establishments.

We are determined to ensure (he said) that there will be room in the prison system for every person whom the judges and magistrates decide should go there and we shall continue to do whatever is necessary for that purpose. (Conservative cheers).

MPs had the duty to scrutinize the working of Britain's institutions and public services, but that right to scrutinize should be exercised in a balanced and responsible way. It was their duty to svoid wild exaggeration and merely destructive criticism.



Whitelaw: Bill soon



Hattersley: Too remote

Mr John Morris (Aberavon, Lab) said it would be wrong to ignore social conditions. No-one was suggesting that unemployment was an excuse for crime. It was not, but it was a factor which could not be ignored and the Government did so at its peril. Some of Britain's chief constables were far too prone to take to platforms day after day.

Serious gap between public and police

In the latest part of his speech in the House of Lords debate on law and order yesterday, Lord Scarman, who conducted last year's inquiry into the Brixton riots, said that the police must first maintain operational efficiency which was a matter of discipline training, and equipment with all proper modern technology.

Next week

The main business in the House of Commons next week will be:
Monday: Debate on the Trident programme.
Tuesday: Fire Service College Abolition Bill and Stock Transfer Bill, remaining stages. Motion on the gas levy rate order. Motions relating to the National Health Service dental and optical charges(amendment) regulations.
Wednesday and Thursday: Oil and Gas Enterprise Bill, remaining stages.
Friday: Private members' *Bills:* Supply of Goods and Services Bill and Children's Homes Bill, report.

The main business in the House of Lords will be:
Monday: Local Government (*Miscellaneous Provisions*) *Bill*, committee, third day.
Tuesday: Administration of Justice Bill, committee. Debate on EEC farm prices for 1982-83. Debate on the Polish Government's obligations under the Helsinki Declaration.
Wednesday: Debate on the regeneration of cities, on the reform of the law on copyright, designs and performers' protection, and on the Queen's flight.
Thursday: Lloyd's Bill, second reading. Deer (Amendment) (Scotland) Bill, report.

Parliament today

Commons (9.30): Private member's motion on combating juvenile crime.

Correction

The arrears of rates owed to Camden Borough Council in respect of the Soviet Trade Delaegation's premises amount to nearly £500,000, not £50,000 as reported from the House of Lords on Wednesday.

Mining must not spoil Vale

COAL INDUSTRY

Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for Employment, has rejected the National Coal Board's application to develop the Vale of Belvoir coalfield in Leicestershire. Announcing his decision in a statement in the House of Commons, Mr Heseltine said his decision should not be taken as going against Government policy that the coal industry had an increasingly important role to play and he accepted that the board might wish to submit a new application.

Mr Heseltine said: In August, 1978, the board submitted a planning application to Melton Borough Council for permission to work that part of the coalfield which lies under Leicestershire, to construct three mines at Hose, Saltby and Asfordby, and to tip spoil adjacent to these three sites.

At the same time, applications were made to Rushcliffe Borough Council and South Kesteven District Council for permission to work those parts of the coalfield which lie under Nottinghamshire and Lincolnshire respectively. These applications were called in by my predecessor, Mr Peter Shore, in January 1979.

A public local inquiry was conducted on my behalf by Mr Michael Mann, QC, assisted by two assessors. I should like to record my gratitude to Mr Mann and his two collegues for the way they conducted the inquiry and for the report.

The inspector recommended that planning permission should be granted for the development of the coalfield and the construction of all three mines, but that permission should be refused for the proposed spoil tips at Hose and Saltby.

I have carefully considered all of the issues in the inspector's report. I agree with the inspector that the board's proposals for tipping at Hose and Saltby are unacceptable as they stand, but in addition I am concerned about tipping at Asfordby because of its impact on agriculture. I have concluded that before local tipping at any of the three sites could be contemplated the possibility of other methods of spoil disposal should be further examined.

I have also concluded that the development of a mine complex at the proposed Hose site is environmentally unacceptable. Mine buildings here on the scale proposed would dominate a wide area, and would be alien to the Vale.

The inspector concluded that it was somewhat more likely than not that there will be a need to supplement indigenous deep-mine capacity at about the time the Belvoir coalfield could become fully operational, but he felt unable to refine his opinion by suggesting the year in which the need would arise or the exact extent of that need.

I accept that the coal will be needed in the future, but I have had to weigh the degree of need demonstrated with the adverse environmental effects to which I have already referred.

"I have also considered whether the development of this coalfield can be justified on the grounds of the employment opportunities it would create for mineworkers displaced by colliery closures in the north-west Leicestershire and south Nottinghamshire areas. I have concluded that the very important benefits which would accrue from the provision of such employment should be considered in the light of any fresh applications the board may wish to make and in a timescale compatible with the employment requirements.

'I have concluded that the need and employment arguments are not incompatible with the need to seek an alternative approach to the mining of this coalfield which gives more weight to the environmental objections, and I have therefore refused planning permission for the development of the Vale of Belvoir coalfield as set out in the present planning applications.

Thid decision should not be seen as in any way going against Government policy that the coal industry has an essential and increasing part to play in meeting this country's future needs for energy provided that it is competitive and based on efficient high productivity capacity. I accept that the board might wish to submit new planning applications setting out revised proposals to exploit this massive national resource.

However, before doing so, I consider that the board should reexamine how the coalfield can be worked to minimize environmental disturbance and how the colliery waste can be disposed of other than by local surface tipping. I recognize that this second point has ramifications going beyond the board's interests, and I shall therefore be writing shortly to those principally concerned with a view to inviting discussions on how the spoil disposal problem can best be overcome.

It is very important that these discussions should be pursued with vigour and brought to a conclusion as soon as possible. It is a matter for the board as to when new planning applications are submitted, and, provided the major environmental objections can be overcome. I would not anticipate that the procedures for handling these would need to be unduly prolonged.

There is one other poiont to which I should like to refer. The board submitted a single application covering all of the underground coal extraction in Leicestershire, together with the three mine complexes and the three tips, and they have thus opted to stand or fall on a strategy of developing the coalfield as one project. I take the view that, in these circumstances, the granting of a permission for only part of the development would be in effect granting a permission for development which is significantly different in kind from the proposal which was the subject of this application. Had it not been for this, and had there been acceptable proposals for spoil disposal, I Would have been minded to grant planning permission for mines at Asfordby and Saltby.

Hesletine: Effort to avoid more delay

Mr Gerald Kaufman, Chief Opposition spokesman on the environment (Manchester, Ardwick, Lab): His statement is a lamentable confession of vacillation and delay.

It is three-and-a-half years since these planning applications were submitted, nearly two years since the public inquiry ended, and 15 months since he received the inspector's report. How, in the light of that timescale, can Mr Heseltine have the nerve to advise others now to conduct discussion with vigour, and to bring them to a conclusion as soon as possible?

The applications were supported at the public inquiry by the Department of Energy and the European Commission. Both Leicestershire and Nottinghamshire County Councils now support them, and, as he has acknowledged, his own inspector recommended in favour of them.

As the leader of the Conservative members of the European Assembly has pointed out, this development is vital to meeting EEC energy needs when the Belvoir development, a plan for coal on which our own mining industry depends, has a large hole blasted through it.

Before the end of this decade more than 8,000 jobs in the mining industry will be lost through exhaution of pits in Leicestershire and Nottinghamshire. This rejected development could replace nearly 4,000 of those lost jobs.

If he has such concern for the environment, why has he gone to such lenghts to protect a site he himself says in his decision letter is important in regional terms although not outstanding in national terms, while not lifting a finger to save major national sites of special scientific interest at West Sedgemore and Romney Marshes and the internationally important site at Havergate Marsh.

As a result of his statement further delays are inevitable. It will take the National Coal Board another year simply to put together a fresh application. He should give some assurance about the future timescale for a new inquiry and for a decision. Will that decision give the green light that is needed? These are important matters involving jobs and the future of this country.

His environmental reasons for rejecting this application are meagre and inconsistent. His rejection is damaging to jobs, to coal, to the electricity supply industry and to Britain's industrial future.

Mr Heseltine: He should be careful before he challenges this Government on its attidude towards sites of special scientific interest. This is the first Government to do anything at all about such sites since the legislation was put on the statue book in 1948.

If he is to dismiss so lightly the environmental case for the delay, he will want to bear in mind the inspector's reference to land of a character normally associated with a national park. That is something I would have thought he, as a shadow environment spokesman, would be as much concerned about as me.

This is a difficult and complex decision and I do not accept I have taken an unwarranted long time.

Although the inspector recommended there should be mines in each of the three situations and also recommended there should be no tipping in the context of Hose, Saltby and Asfordby, he did not deal with the question of the disposal of the waste. He left the matter to be resolved later. It seemed right this ought to be resolved whilst decisions are before me.

I said in my statement that I accepted there is going to be development of coal fields in North-East Leicestershire. We should now move forward in the light of all the discussions that have taken place and have full public ventilation.

In order to ensure we move as urgently as possible, I have made clear I intend to approach the principle parties in this matter to make use of department officials to ensure there is no wasted time. The employment possibilities, obviously of great concern to everybody, can be met within the timescale of the new possibilities I am describing to the House. The precise timing is not within my gift.

Mr Michael Latham (Melton, C): While there will be considerable relief in my constituency there will be some disappointment that the matter is still not finally settled because of the original reluctance of the NCB to submit three separate planning applications.

Mr Heseltine: I was faced here with one single planning application. I took legal advice whether I could separate the components of that application and reach different judgments, but I was advised that it would not be proper or advisable to do so. I have had to take a general view.

Loose talk about IRA condemned

ULSTER

Loose talk about the demise of the IRA was criticized by **Mr James Prior**, *Secretary of State* for Northern Ireland, and **Mr Dennis Concannon**, Chief Opposition spokesman on Northern Ireland. Mr Prior said that every time anyone talked about the demise of the IRA it was an open invitation for them to come out, and Mr Concannon said that the demise of the IRA should be allowed to happen without a predictable response. He referred to the murder of the three soldiers in west Belfast that morning.

Mr Prior, questioned about payments of money and offers of amnesty to IRA murderers for giving information to the Royal Ulster Constabulary, said that the Chief Constable of the RUC had made it clear that people had not been offered large sums of money. The police offered a safe haven and assistance in starting a new life to people who brought evidence which could bring others to justice. They were not bribed or threatened. The families and the people who had information of great importance had to be protected, he said.

He also denied knowledge of any CIA activity in Northern Ireland or Britain, and said that the help being given by President Reagan and the United States should be recognised.

Mr Prior said that in their different ways the six killings since he had last answered questions on February 25 summed up the horror and futility of the terrorist offences in Northern Ireland. Since the beginning of this year 204 people had been held for terrorist-type crimes.

Mr James Molyneaux (South Antrim, Off UU): Following the killing of the three soldiers this morning, does he agree that it is highly dangerous for people to assert that the terrorist agencies have been seriously damaged or broken by the activities of informers?

Does he share the concern that there has been a failure to bring to justice the murders of 50 law-abiding citizens? Will he give an assurance that everything will be done to bring murderers to justice?

Mr Prior: Everything possible will be done to bring murderers to justice.

Today's events are a timely reminder of the present position and the need for vigilance, and that violence is never far removed from the Northern Ireland scene.

I would like to express on behalf of the whole House the feelings we have today for the families of the three men who have been killed, as well as the families of all those who serve in Northern Ireland in the interest of the peace of the whole province and of the people of Northern Ireland.




Prior: Police offer safe haven

We must go on doing all that we can to try to help the security forces and to bring peace and stability. It is not going to be done quickly or easily. That is why it is so important for everyone in this House not to say things which in any way make the task of peaceful policies more difficult.

Mr Dennis Concannon, for the Opposition (Mansfield, Lab): We wish to join Mr Prior in his respects and condolences to the families following the dastardly deed this morning and the death of three more of our young soldiers carrying out their duty on behalf of this House.

It is to me, when reading the newspapers and listening to television, only another predictable response once again by the IRA. This is due to all the loose talk about the demise of the IRA.

We should allow the demise to happen without the response that does take place and the loose talk and the prediction and predictability of the response of the IRA that leads to the death not only of these three young soldiers but of other people in Northern Ireland. Loose talk would be better not said.

Mr Prior: Every time that anyone in the press or elsewhere talks about the demise of the IRA it is an open invitation for them to come out. Therefore, the less said about these things the better. We can rejoice privately when we think we are doing a bit better than we were. We all ought to realize the dangers that there are.

Ulster VIPs warned day in and day out

All VIPs in Northern Ireland are warned day in and day out of the dangers they face from the IRA, Mr James Prior, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, said during other questions.

Mr Enoch Powell (Down, South) had asked what progress had been made to bring to justice those responsible for the murder of the Rev Robert Bradford.

Mr Prior: Extensive police enquiries are continuing into the murders of the Rev Robert Bradford and Mr Campbell, who was killed with him. No one has been charged so far. The Royal Ulster Constabulary will continue their investigations until the guilty are brought to justice and punished.

Mr Powell: Why did the Secretary of State on the day after the Rev Bradford's funeral use, in the presence of Mr James Molyneaux (Antrim, South off UU) amd others, the words—"We were not expecting the Rev Bradford to be murdered." Who were they expecting would be murdered, and will he ask his officials to explain to him what he meant?

Mr Prior: I do not need officials to tell me what I meant. What I meant was what I said, and I stick by that.

Mr Nicholas Winterton (Macclesfield, C): How was the Rev Bradford, a personal friend of many of us, actually murdered? Is it not right that those in the sitution of the late Rev Bradford should have been receiving more adequate security cover because of their very sensitive position?

Would he assure us that the members who represent Northern Ireland constituencies are adequately protected so they can carry on their difficult job?

Mr Prior: The Rev Bradford was being protected but it is a difficult matter to decide what is adequate protection. These are the difficulties from which we all suffer. President Reagan surrouned by vast numbers of people was even the partial victim of an assassin's bullet.

But we take all the precautions we can. We try to give all we can to all we think in danger and we will continue to do so. It is not perfect, there is always room for improvement, but the RUC does a remarkable job and is a remarkable police force and nothing that has been said should deter from the marvellous work they do.

Rev Ian Paisley (North Antrim, *Dem U): The people of Northern* Ireland will be alarmed at the statement that he was not aware of the serious threat on the life of the Rev Bradford. The Special Branch had visited the late Rev Bradford a few days before his killing and warned him of the fact that he was on a death list.

Mr Prior: Some of these matters are not easy to discuss in the House. We were going through a difficult and worrying period; we may go through that again. Certain information was received about certain people and other information which one might like to get, we did not receive.

At that time, although we were worried about a number of VIPs there was no more concern about the Rev Bradford than about a number of others. He was being protected.

Like all VIPs in Northern Ireland he had been warned, as others are today and day in and day out are warned about the dangers. I bitterly regret his murder took place.

Parties want devolved assembly

Stable and durable political arrangements in Northern Ireland could only be achieved on the basis of general consent and that was what he was seeking to achieve, Mr James Prior, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, said during exchanges on proposals for devolved government for the province. He stressed that no final decisions had yet been taken on proposals for the restoration of devolved government in Northern Ireland.

He rebuked Mr Enoch Powell for his "absurd notion" that officials in his department had been tampering with individual members of the political parties with a view to manipulating their responses. Mr Prior asked Mr Powell why he could not take the same attitude towards the Civil Service as he took when he was a member of the Government.

Mr Tom Arnold (*Hazel* Grove, C) asked: If the present momentum is maintained, does he believe that the political parties will be prepared to participate in elections for a new assembly?

Mr Prior: My discussions with the political parties are continuing. I have reason to believe that the political parties will take part in an election. I hope that this could be the start of an assembly, if that is the decision which is reached by the Government.

Mr Michael Latham (Melton, C): If his private soundings suggest that political leaders in the province were opposed to the proposals, will he shelve the idea of an initiative at this time? We have had far too many unsuccessful initiatives in recent years. (Some cheers)

Mr Prior: Simply to do nothing does not necessarily mean that the position remains the same or improves. It is the wish of all the political parties in Northern Ireland that there should be a devolved assembly and we should recognize that wish as well.

The Rev Ian Paisley (North Antrim, Dem U): Will he assure MPs that in his proposals there are no suggestions for an institutionalized Irish dimension or enforced power-sharing? If he goes along that line, he is bound to fail.

Mr Prior: We are all now presuming on what might happen in the future. I would rather wait for these points to be discussed when and if the Government proceed with the proposals.

Sir John Biggs-Davison (Epping Forest, C): The best safeguard for the minority in Northern Ireland is to be found in this Parliament rather than in an intricate system of checks and balances.

Mr Prior: The best safeguard for the minority in Northern Ireland is for them to feel that they can play a full part both in the Government and in an assembly for Northern Ireland and also in supporting the forces of law and order. That is the way in which we can obtain peace.

Mr Enoch Powell (South Down, Off UU): If he is so sure that he knows the wishes of the people of Northern Ireland, why has it been necessary in the last nine months for officials in his department to tamper with individual members of political parties with a view to manipulating their responses — or did that happen without the knowledge of his predecessor or himself?

Mr Prior: There has been no tampering. When is he going to give up this absurd notion that he holds on this subject? Why cannot he take the same attitude towards the Civil Service that he took when he was a member of the Government?

Living standards are now higher

PM's QUESTIONS

Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, said at question time that she was happy to send a message to Glasgow, Hillhead, that living standards were now higher than at any time during the last Labour government.

Mr Michael Foot, Leader of the Opposition (Ebbw Vale, Lab) had asked if she had sent a last-minute message to the electors of Hillhead incorporating for their benefit the latest views of the Chancellor of the Exchequer on how living standards fell last year and were going to continue to fall in this coming year.

Mrs Thatcher: I have not in fact sent an extra message to Hillhead — (Labour laughter) — but for his better and more accurate information I would point out that living standards are now higher than they were at any time during the last Labour government. (Conservative cheers).

Mr Foot: Does she confirm what the Chancellor says? How long is the period when these living standards are likely to continue to fall? Since this is one of the few matters on which the Cabinet appears to be agreed, and this seems to reflect the view given by the Leader of the House (Mr Francis Pym) a few weeks ago, for which he was rebuked by the Prime Minister, surely she should send a message to Hillhead so that everyone should get it quite clear.

Mrs Thatcher: Perhaps he will recall that living standards fell heavily in the year 1975. They fell in the year 1976 and in the year 1977. He has only to look at the real personal disposable income figures. They rose sharply between 1977 and 1980 by a figure wholly unrelated to the growth of productivity and output. This at a time when real company incomes fell by over 20 per cent.

This is the point the Chancellor was referring to. One cannot have increasing personal incomes except by increasing personal output. Nevertheless, I am happy to send a message to Hillhead that living standards are now higher than at any time during the last Labour government.

Mr Joel Barnett (Heywood and Royton, Lab): The Chancellor said in last year's Budget that one major problem was that living standards had risen beyond the growth of the economy. So why does she boast now about living standards had risen beyond the growth of the economy. So why does she boast now about living standards having risen when growth has declined?

Mrs Thatcher: Living standards of ordinary people are higher than they were under Labour. One reason, unfortunately, has been a redistribution of income away from companies to those who work in the many enterprises.

We believe profits must be rebuilt. That was part of what the Chancellor was saying.

Mr David Steel, *Leader of the* Liberal Party (Roxburgh, Selkirk and Peebles,): Although Mrs Thatcher has not been able to send a message to the people of Hillhead, those people are likely to send a message to her today. (Some cheers)

Would she add to their education by giving us the latest tax and price index compared to when she took office?

Mrs Thatcher: I am happy to send a message to Hillhead that *living standards are now higher* than at any time since the last Labour government which includes, of course, standards under the government of which his candidate was a member.

The tax index is up. If he wishes, as I wish, it to be down, will he say what expenditure he would cut or what social services benefits he would cut.

Mr Ivan Lawrence (Burton, C): Will the Prime Minister remind Hillhead electors that practically the only matter on which the Leader of the Liberal Party and one or other of the leaders of the SDP are agreed is that one of the solutions to the rise of crime and lawlessness in our streets is to legalize cannabis?

Mrs Thatcher: It is news to me they are agreed on anything.

Protests mark passage of Canada Bill

HOUSE OF LORDS

The Canada Bill was read the third time and passed in the House of Lords. **Lord Trefgarne**, Under Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, saying it was an historic and happy moment.

During the third reading debate peers protested at a long speech by the Earl of Gosford in which he complained that the house had shown little courtesy during the passage of the bill and had closed minds on the issue of the aboriginal Indians.

Cries of "Shame" and "Order" punctuated Lord Gosford's speech, and **Lady Young**, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster and leader of the house, rose twice to appeal to him to conclude his remarks. **Lord Stathcona and Mount Royal** (C) and **Lord Mobray Segrave and Stourton** (C) also rose to question whether Lord Gosford's remarks were in order and whether anyone actually wished to hear them.

Finally, **Lady Wooton of** *Arbinger (Lab) moved formerly* that "the noble lord be no longer heard," and on a division Lord Gosford was denied a further hearing by 147 votes to 15 — a majority of 132.

The Earl of Gosford had said that he was very disturbed that the Government, having been reassured that nothing was going to delay the passage of the Bill, had by their attitude prevented debate on the important issue of the Indians.

Nearly 13 hours of debate had been spent in committee stage in the House of Commons, but only a 50 minute "freeze-out" in the Lords, and this did not enhance the picture of magnaminity which peers would wish to present to the world. The atmosphere in the House of Lords had been one of dry ice.

The closing stages of the third reading debate were marked by another protest — this time from the public gallery where a man jumped to his feet and shouted: "I speak as a Canadian. I believe the provisions of this Bill. . ." The rest of his protest was drowned by the Lord Chancellor, *Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone*, putting the motion for the third reading.

Before being esorted from the gallery by attendants the man threw pamphlets.

The Travel Concessions (London) *Bill* was read the third time and passed. The Salmon Fisheries (Protection) (Scotland) Bill passed the report stage.

What the voters said

New brooms, old wasteland

By Anthony Bevins and Jonathan Wills

When the voters of Partick West ward in Glasgow, Hillhead, last went to the polls in the 1980 district elections, they gave the Conservatives 45 per cent, Labour 34 SDP 15 and the Liberals 5 per cent of their votes. Even so, the SDP/Liberal Alliance was polling well in the ward yesterday morning, and there was strong evidence that old loyalties were dying.

One couple, both aged 70, had always voted Labour. The woman, who did not wish to be named, said: "We have done so ever since we married; until today."

She had voted SDP: "I like what they stand for. They are middle of the road." Why had she turned against Labour? "They are too left. They are too communist. We have read all the brochures and that is what we decided".

"Yes, I've changed my vote too," Mrs Elizabeth Ballantyne said. "I have voted Jenkins. Last time it was the Labour candidate — I can't remember his name. You see, Sir Tam Galbraith always held the vote here. He never did much. We need Jenkins and the alliance."

Mrs Ellen Easton was unimpressed: "I always vote the same, Labour". So does Mr James McIntyre. Looking out over the industrial wasteland on the banks of the Clyde, he said: "Roy Jenkins was one of the ones that butchered the shipyards in this area".

Mr Frank Moore used to be a "snap Labour voter" but this time he pondered long and hard. He is still Labour, but may think again next time.

Mr George McIntosh said: "I voted for Jenkins. It was Labour last time but I want to see if we can get something done in this country". Mrs Agnes Emerson admitted that she had "changed a little" — another Jenkins convert. "I don't mind that Mr Jenkins is an outsider, he's a very clever man."

"I really thought that this was supposed to be private, you know," said the police lady from Jordanhill. She then confided that she had voted Tory again, but with mixed feelings. Another Jordanhill voter, Mrs May Young, said that she had switched from Conservative to the Alliance. Her husband, an architect who had voted earlier in the day, had said that he would be doing the same. Mrs Young said: "I want to try to get rid of the two-Party system".

Up in Anniesland, a stronger Conservative ward, there was also evidence of change. At the same 1980 elections the Conservatives polled 58 per cent, Labour 17, SNP 13 and Liberal 12. Mrs Isabella Cameron, from Goldenhill, said she had changed from Conservative to SDP because she wanted a new broom: "I am not saying that Maggie Thatcher is not doing a good job; I think she is. I think she is a very brave woman. No one can produce jobs, but it's dreadful when someone hasn't got a job.

"I really do feel that this is the business of the Labour Party helping some sections, and the Conservative Party helping a different section altogether. What about all those people in the middle?"

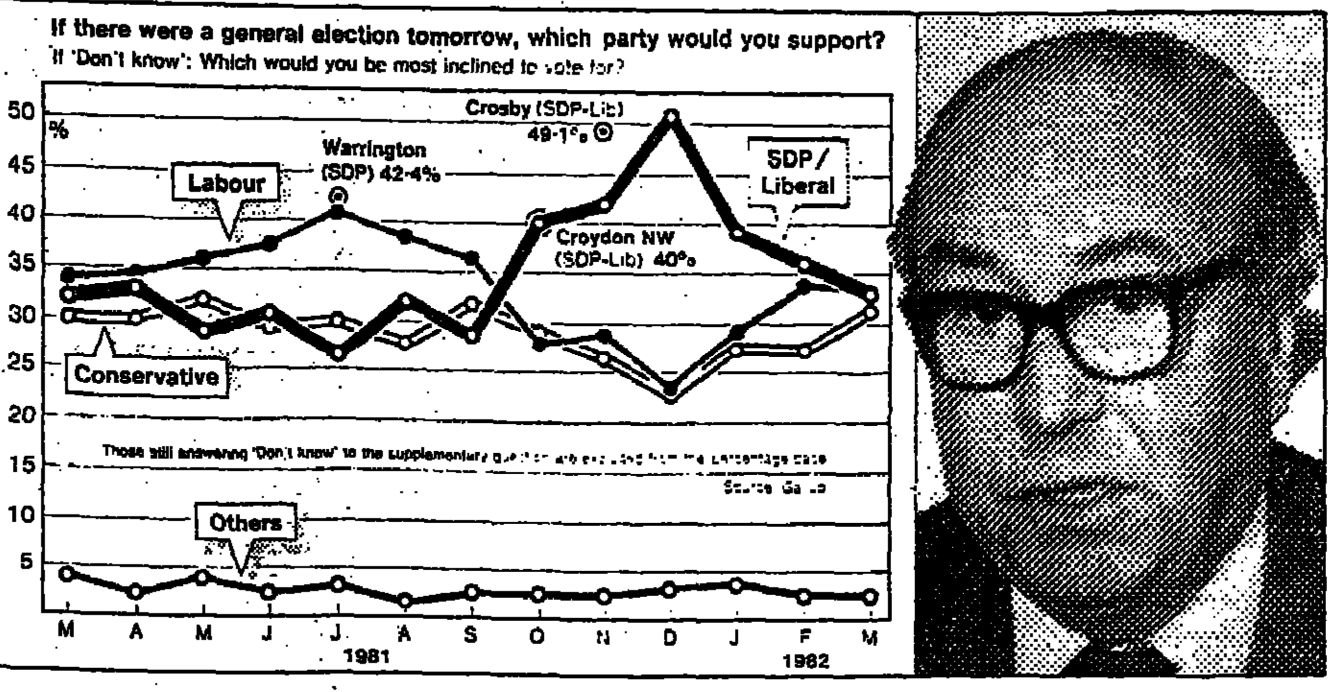
Mr Callum White, who hopes to go to university in October, said that he had changed from Conservative to Labour: "The SDP, to me, is an extension of the Tory Party."

No such doubts were entertained by the blue-suited Conservative woman who left the polling station with her daughter in a blue Jaguar XJ6: "We both support Mrs Thatcher and her policies. She is the only one who does not waver for popularity's sake." "It takes time to correct bad situation", explained her daughter.

"We are working-class people even if we do live in Chamberlain Road", said Mrs Catherine McMurray. Her husband, Joseph, aged 76, said: "We are too old to change. I've voted Labour all my life. I came through the hungry 1930s and was idle for three years and 10 months because of my political opinion s, and organizing for a trade union. The progressive vote is split enough without splitting it again for Jenkins."

Mrs Sarah Black, a cheery Liberal in her twenties, told reporters to keep clear of her daughter aged seven — "she has got the mumps". Mrs Black said her husband persuaded her to vote SDP although she was upset that the Liberal candidate had to step down for Mr Jenkins. "It's a funny district, they don't like telling you who they're voting for. It's this Scottish thing, you see, it's their business."

After one SDP year: the Alliance's progress with the voters



Now the party will choose its leader

By Ian Bradley

It is a strange coincidence that the result of the Glasgow, Hillhead by-election should be declared a year to the day since the launching of the Social Democratic Party.

The party's rapid rise in the aftermath of the spectacularly staged launch in London's Connaught Rooms surprised even the most ardent Social Democrats. Within 10 days it had 43,566 members and opinion polls showed the prospect of a SDP/Liberal Alliance attracting the support of a third of the electorate.

Partnership between the two parties was agreed in principle in June. The following month at Warrington, in the SDP's first by-election contest, Mr Roy Jenkins achieved the considerable feat of taking 42 per cent of the vote and turning a Labour stronghold into a marginal seat.

During the autumn the alliance went from strength to strength, with by-election victories first for Mr William Pitt in Croydon (October 22) and then for Mrs Shirley Williams in Crosby (November 26). The alliance's rating in opinion polls climbed from 29 per cent in September to 50.5 per cent at the end of the year.

The bubble burst, as it was inevitable it would, at the turn of the year. In the first three months of 1982 the alliance's rating in the polls has fallen regularly and it is now back at exactly the level it was a year ago when the SDP was launched.

The reasons for this change in fortune are not difficult to find. The euphoria engendered by the creation of a new party dedicated to breaking the mould of British politics was bound to wear off. Indeed, the surprise is that it did not wear off earlier. The media, which had given the SDP extensive and generally enthusiastic coverage throughout 1981, turned their attentions elsewhere and toned down some of their early excitement.

The alliance also showed that it was not the shining, whiter than white party that many of its supporters supposed but just as capable of bickering and nastiness as Labour and the Conservatives. A much publicized outburst by Mr William Rodgers at the end of December about the distribution of seats between the SDP and the Liberals did much to tarnish the new party's hitherto stainless image.

There have also been signs in the last few months of a slowing down in the alliance's performance rate in local government by-elections. At the last count, Liberals and the SDP were winning fewer than a quarter of the local seats they contested, compared with about two-thirds at the turn of the year.

With Hillhead behind it, the SDP will now concentrate on electing its first leader. The first stage in the process will be the distribution of ballot papers to all members in the next two weeks. They will be asked to vote on whether the leader should be elected by the party membership as a whole or by MPs alone. There will also be a compromise on offer involving election by the whole membership for the first leader who will take the party into the next general election, with election by MPs thereafter.

The results of the ballot should be known by the end of April and the SDP's first leader is expected to be chosen a fortnight after the new session of Parliament starts in November.

A survey of more than 5,500 SDP members taken last November for the London Weekend Television programme, Weekend World, found that 52 per cent would prefer Mr Jenkins as leader, 27 per cent Mrs Shirley Williams, 17 per cent Dr David Owen, and 1 per cent Mr William Rodgers.

For the alliance, the next by-election test will come at Beaconsfield, where Mr Paul Tyler, former Liberal MP for Bodmin, will carry the standard. No date has been fixed for the contest, but it is unlikely to predate the local government elections on May 6 at which the alliance will be trying to win control of several London boroughs and establish a sizeable presence in the big metropolitan districts.

VOTING CHANGE: by-elections since last general election (in brackets)

		% Lab.	% Con	% Lib (or SDP-Lib)
Manchester Central	Sept 1979	70.7 (70.7)	12.0 (22.1)	14.1 (5.2)
Hertfordshire SW	Dec 1979	27.7 (27.7)	54.7 (45.9)	23.6 (16.2)
Southend E	Mar 1980	35.6 (29.1)	36.8 (56.1)	25.1 (13.1)
Warrington	July 1981	48.4 (61.7)	7.1 (28.8)	42.4 (9.0)
Croydon NW	Oct 1981	26.0 (40.1)	30.5 (49.4)	40.0 (10.5)
Crosby	Nov 1981	9.5 (25.4)	39.8 (56.9)	49.1 (15.2)
Glasgow C	June 1980	Lab 60.8 (72.5)	Con 8.8 (16.4)	SNP 26.3 (11.1)
Belfast S	Mar 1982	Off UU 39.05 (61.7)	Alliance 26.7 (25.1)	DUP 22.3 (–)

Roy Jenkins: the toughened liberal aiming at No 10

By George Clark

With a notable career in Westminster and European politics already behind him, Roy Jenkins, at the age of 61, has surprised both friends and enemies with his determination in the two by-elections he has contested in the past eight months.

Here is no elitist sybarite, but a man offering an alternative, perhaps coalition, solution to the nation's difficulties, abhorring the usual confrontation between left and right. There is no lack of personal ambition, either, and if the electors and the Liberal-Social Democratic Alliance create the opportunity, not now but at the next general election, for him to take over at 10 Downing Street, he gives the impression that he will be ready.

In the political spectrum, Mr Jenkins has always been a moderate, the advocate of tolerance, as seen in his social reforms. A devoted and unwavering supporter of the late Hugh Gaitskell, he never fitted easily into the acrimonious setting of Labour Party activities. Yet he had an impeccable socialist background.

His father, Sir Arthur Jenkins, was a miner in Monmouthshire, an official of the Welsh miners' union, and was sentenced to a short term of imprisonment after a clash between miners and the police. He became an MP, for Pontypool, in 1935, and parliamentary private secretary to Mr Clement Attlee.

Roy went to the Abersychan Grammar School and gained a scholarship to Balliol College, Oxford, where he won first-class honours.

He contested Solihull for Labour in 1945, unsuccessfully, but won Central Southwark in 1948. In 1950, he shifted to Birmingham, Stechford, holding the seat until he resigned in 1976 to take up the presidency of the EEC Commission. He was chairman of the Fabian Society in 1957-58 and a member of the committee of management of the Society of Authors from 1956 to 1960, a period when he successfully promoted the Obscene Publications Bill which clarified and liberalized the law.

When Labour came back to office with a majority of four in 1964, Mr Harold Wilson made Mr Jenkins Minister of Aviation, transferring him to the Home Office in 1965, in succession to Sir Frank Soskice. In that department he established his reputation as a liberal and reforming politician, especially in matters of race.

He was the main initiating force in the promotion of the Race Relations Act, 1968.

Then came his three-year stint as Chancellor of the Exchequer, when he ran into a lot of trouble with Labour left-wingers. However, politicians, especially Labour ones, now look back on this as a halcyon period when the rate of inflation was held to 5 per cent and the number of unemployed was 500,000.

Mr Jenkins found in the 1970s that he was more and more out of sympathy with Labour's policies. A pro-Marketeer since 1955, in April, 1972, he resigned the deputy leadership of the Parliamentary Labour Party when the Shadow Cabinet, in a move intended to unite opposing factions, decided to back the idea of holding a referendum on continuing EEC membership if Labour came to power in 1974.

In the 1974 general election he campaigned loyally in spite of his disagreement. Mr Wilson made him Home Secretary again, a posting that seemed to be a mark of disfavour.

In January, 1977, he was glad to take the chance of tackling European affairs from the top, as commisssion president. When he returned to England in January, 1981, having given plenty of notice that he would work to form a new Social Democratic Party, he reflected on his performance in Brussels. He admitted that he had not been able to change the Commission's popular image as a remote bureaucracy having little relevance to the lives of ordinary citizens.

"I learnt that you have to proceed by persuading governments", he said. "It would be nice to think you could operate by generating a tide of public opinion which would sweep governments aside. But that is an illusion."

On his return, when Mrs Margaret Thatcher and Mr Michael Foot attacked him for his promotion of the new party, Mr Jenkins said: "They are afraid, and rightly afraid, that many people in this country are fed up with the old politics and want an end to the mutual slanging match."

New steps towards making private records more public

By David Hewson

The Government announced tentative steps yesterday towards making the private records of past office more publicly available. The measures, which are a response to last year's report on official secrecy headed by Sir Duncan Wilson, a former Ambassador to Moscow and Master of Corpus Christi College, will not satisfy those who have sought a full-blooded Freedom of Information Bill.

But the White Paper announced by Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone, the Lord Chancellor, does contain several new measures which are likely to interest academic and journalistic researchers who are fond of the Public Records Office.

The most striking is a relaxing of the edict issued in 1967 by Lord Gardiner, Lord Chancellor, which exempted the internal files of MI5 and MI6 from disclosure under the 30-year rule. In future, the blanket approval required for such exemptions will be subject to more specific and frequent ministerial endorsement. Every blanket approval granted will be subject to reconsideration after not more than 20 years.

In addition, the Public Records Office will make available some information about the material which has been withheld. That will include brief details of the types of records covered, the period of the batch and a note of the dates when they were exempted from the 30-year rule. The White Paper says: "The information will enable researchers in the PRO to be better informed about the nature of material retained although the description of some of the retained material, for example records affecting national security, will necessarily have to be brief."

There will not be a flood of new material from government departments to the Public Records Office as a result of yesterday's announcement. That will disappoint those who supported the recommendations made by Sir Duncan Wilson and his colleagues, Professor Margaret Gowing, official historian of the British atomic energy programme, and Sir Paul Osmond, former secretary to the Church Commissioners.

The Wilson report condemned the Macmillan, Home, Wilson, Heath, Callaghan and Thatcher administrations for failing to implement properly the sound system for handling departmental information promulgated in the Public Records Act, 1958.

But yesterday's White Paper took the Wilson report to task for underestimating the cost of liberalizing the system of public disclosure, which Sir Duncan Wilson said was minimal. It also rejected his suggestion that valuable records had been destroyed because of inadequacies

Modern Public Rcords Stationery Office 8531, £2.65.



Yehudi Menuhin with Jin Li, aged 13, a violinist from China, who played with the London Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Mr Menuhin, at the Barbican Centre, London, yesterday.

Care of the handicapped

Babies' rights to live backed

By David Nicholson-Lord

The withdrawal of food or medical treatment from severely handicapped babies rejected by their parents does not command majority support from the public, according to an opinion poll published yesterday. Care in a home or hospital is the most popular choice.

The poll, commissioned from MORI by the Human Rights Society, showed that 45 per cent favoured residential of foster-parent care if the parents could not cope. Thirty-seven per cent thought it should be arranged for the baby to die. Another 13 per cent were undecided.

The results were released by the society as part of a compaign against a draft Bill being circulated to MPs which would lift the risk of prosecution from doctors stopping treatment of severely disabled newborn babies. The society said the draft was being sent out by Prospect, a group set up by members of EXIT, the voluntary euthanasia society.

The draft Limitation of Treatment Bill would require the consent of parents and the certification by two doctors that the baby suffered severe mental and physical disability which was irreversible and so bad that no worthwhile quality of life would be enjoyed after treatment.

Mr Norman St John-Stevas, Conservative MP for Chelmsford and founding chairman of the Human Rights Society, welcomed the poll as showing widespread support for the protection of life. He described the finding that the strongest support, 53 per cent, for continuation of life came in the 15-24 age group as a good omen.

The poll, of more than 2,000 people, was conducted last month in the light of the acquittal of Dr Leonard Arthur, the Derby consultant, on charges of attempting to kill a baby suffering from Down's Syndrome.

Mr St John-Stevas said the law should be left as it was because it was impartial, unlike parents and doctors who were "animated by subjective judgement."

Two mothers of severly handicapped children also criticized the proposals. Mrs Margret Anderson, aged 29, said her daughter was overwhelmingly handicapped at birth and she had been advised against corrective surgery. But at the age of two, in spite of suffering Edwards' syndrome, hydrocephalus, epilepsy and partial sight, she was now walking, talking in sentences, feeding herself and was soon to start at nursery school.

Dr Jennifer Gray, a Birmingham General Practitioner, said her daughter now aged almost four but denied surgery as a baby because of severe spina bifida, was a happy child with an IQ of 145.

Archaeology report

Riddle of the Chinese anchors may be solved

By Norman Hammond, Archaeology Correspondent

The great Chinese anchor mystery seems to have been solved. Adherents of long-distance prehistoric voyaging will be disappointed that onr of their best cases so far is apparently baseless, while those archaeologists who seek to explain cultural development in terms of local change rather than sudden appearances of a deus ex machina will heave a sigh of relief.

For several centuries academics have scouted the notion that Chinese voyagers visited North America around AD 500, as it happens, the period when civilization in Mexico was reaching its apogee. Occasional artefacts such as the carved mirror backs of Veracruz have been perceived as exhibiting Chinese influence, and no less august an institution than the American Museum of Natural History in New York displays a map on which those pre-Columbian transpacific voyages are detailed.

The entire theory rested until recently on the single reference in the History of the Liang Dynasty (reigned AD 502-557) to the voyage of the monk Huishen to the kingsom of Fusang. The people and plants described were thought by some scholars to refer explicitly to the west coast of the United States although as long ago as 1892 Gustaaf Schlegel demonstrated that Fusang could be clearly identified with the island of Sakhalin, north of Japan.

The diffusionist school ignored Schlegel, however, and from arguing that nautical technology in the Han Dynasty and later could have made a voyage possible, its enthusiasts concluded that such contacts did occur. The recent discovery of curious stone "anchors" off the coast of southern California seemed for a while to support their claims.

Stone anchors, rocks bored to take a rope, are known from the Bronze Age onwards in the Mediterranean area; in 1973 a doughnut-shaped rock of similar fromn was dredged up off Claifornia, and then in 1975 a site with at least twenty such stones was located just south of Los Angeles.

Dr C. William Clewlow, at that time with the University of California at Los Angeles, gave an estimated date of five hundred to a thousand years to the pierced rocks on grounds of style.

Another scholar, James R. Moriarty III, of the University of San Diego, decided that they were evidence of an ancient Chinese shipwreck, and sent illustrations of the objects to Chinese experts for comment.

The noted maritime historian, Fang Zhongpu, responded in China Reconstructs in August 1980, that such stones were "known to have been used for thousands of years as anchors", and were sometimes referred to as "stone pillars" in texts. Dr Moriarty and Dr Larry Pierson advanced their case in the Anthropological Journal of Canada in 1980, by citing other evidence of transpacific contact, including the long-discredited theory of links between Japan and Ecuador in 3000 BC. They claimed the stones to be evidence of a large Asiatic shipwreck several centuries old, and their petrology to be of non-Californian origin. "It seems clear to us", they concluded, "that Asiatic vessels reached the New World in pre-Columbian times".

This convincing essay has now been shortly and thoroughly denounced by Professor Frank Frost, of the University of California at Santa Barbara, a specialist in ancient Greek seafaring. He notes that the stones "are almost certainly Monterey shale, one of the most common coastal formations in southern California", and that the stones (which are indubitably of human workmanship were therefore presumably shaped somewhere on that coastline. The pattern of distribution of the Los Angeles finds is more in accordance with numerous individual losses at a frequent anchorage than with a shipwreck, he notes in the latest issue of Archaeology.

Who would have used such an anchorage and also used crude stone anchors? The obvious answer seem to be the Chinese immigrant community in the nineteenth century, many of whom came from the fishing region of the Pearl River delta, in southern China. As well as permanent coastal settlements in northern California, they had temporary camps on the Santa Barbara Channel Islands, on one of which a stone anchor has been found.

While Professor Frost admits that some of the stone objects found underwater do not seem to be anchors, he claims that "it seems most likely that all of the stones are associated with the nineteenth-century California fishing undustry, either as anchors, moorings, or devices concerned in some way with the manipulation of reefs."

Source: Archaeology, Vol.35 No.1, 22-28, 1982.

HESELTINE REJECTS MINE PLAN

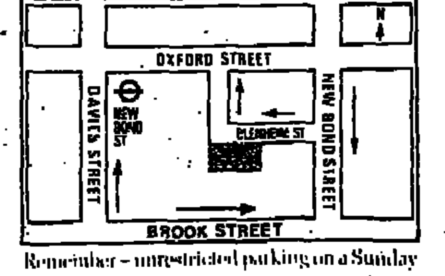
From Our Correspondent
Ludlow

Preservationists who have fought for four years to prevent opencast coal mining at a Hereford and Worcester beauty spot claimed victory yesterday after Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, announced his rejection of the latest appeal against refusal of planning permission.

After a public inquiry last year Mr Heseltine has said he is not prepared to permit Bell Drilling Ltd to mine in the Teme Valley, near Tenbury Wells, because an area of great landscape value would be spoilt. It is the first time that the environment factor has been given as the principal reason for refusing to allow mining there.

The Teme Valley Preservation Society, formed by residents of six villages, believes the minister's decision will strengthen the hand of Hereford and Worcester County Council in resisting any moves to extract minerals in other unspoilt areas

There have been three applications to mine in the Teme Valley in the past four years and two public inquiries. The preservation society has called for planning law changes to prevent companies resubmitting applications within a set period



NEWS IN SUMMARY

Zimbabwe road closed by curfew

Salisbury. — Police imposed a dusk-to-dawn curfew on a 45-mile stretch of a main road on southern Zimbabwe after an ambush in which two motorists were killed.

The curfew applies to the road from Balla Balla, 38 miles south-east of Bulawayo, to Gwanda in the south. Police said two freight company employees had been killed by unknown assailants when their car came under small arms fire.

The incident was the latest in a series of armed attacks around Bulawayo. Police also announced that another arms hoard had been uncovered at Filabusi, near Balla Balla.

Test tube twins for Canada

Oakville, Ontario. — A high school English teacher, Mrs Kit Rankin, gave birth to twin boys conceived by test-tube fertilization, the first such births in North America, the Trafalgar Memorial Hospital announced. One weighed 6lb 15oz, the other 6lb 4oz.

A boy and girl born last June in Australia were the first set of twins conceived by the British Steptoe — Edwards technique. Mr Patrick Steptoe was present at the Canadian births.

Reagan says thank you

Mutual support: President Reagan giving a warm welcome to President Sandro Pertini of Italy in Washington at the start of his state visit.



Spectators on the White House lawn cheered as Mr Reagan praised Italy's rescue of the Kidnapped Brigadier-General James Dozier. He said Italy appeared to be winning its fight against the Red Brigade.

Pretoria blamed over coup

New York—A United Nations inquiry panel has concluded that the South African authorities were probably aware of the planned coup by mercenaries against the Seychelles, but acknowledged that there was not enough evidence to implicate clearly Pretoria in the action. (Our Correspondent writes).

In a 55-page report, supplemented by nine annexes, the panel, composed of representatives from Ireland, Panama, and Japan, said that given South Africa's tight rein over security matters, it was difficult to believe it had not been aware of the preperations being made for the attack.

Compromise at 'Le Monde'

Paris.—M André Laurens, aged 48, the deputy head of the political department of *Le Monde*, has been recommended as the next editor-in-chief. He was on a short-list with M André Fontaine, the present editor, and M Bertrand Porot-Delpech, the literary editor, considered by a committee of seven "wise men" appointed by the staff.

M Laurens appears as a compromise candidate, a man who can restore peace to an editorial staff deeply divided over the controversial candidature of M Claude Julien, until recently the editor of *Le Monde Diplomatique*, who was all set to succeed M Fauvet.

Bolivian bank workers strike

La Paz. — Bolivia's 10,000 bank workers have begun a 48-hour strike to protest about the military regimes economic policies. Union sources said a Government economic package in February, which had included a 76 per cent devaluation of the currency and food price increases, had sent up the cost of living.

All the country's airport controllers are on indefinite strike after the Air Force assumed control at terminals

Paris axes two Concorde routes

Caracas. — Air France is axing its Concorde flights between Paris and South America because of high fuel costs and too few passengers. The last flights from Venezuela and Brazil to Paris will be on Saturday and Sunday respectively. The airline will maintain its 11 other weekly flights from Washington-New York-Paris, Mexico-New York-Paris and New York-Paris direct.

Salvador awaits bloody Sunday end to elections

From Paul Ellman, San Salvador, March 25

Troops and police filled the streets here today as El Salvador's military command girded itself for a guerrilla offensive designed to disrupt Sunday's crucial elections.

Campaigning for the elections officially ended last night with a crescendo of abuse and vilification, most of it directed by the extreme right against the Christian Democratic Party, headed by President Duarte.

Señor Duarte, whose followers represent the centre ground in El Salvador's turbulent politics, was variously described as a "communist", "traitor" and "homosexual" in broadcasts which dominated radio and television stations throughout yesterday evening.

Most observers here expect the partners of the far right to capture more than half the vote on Sunday, thereby precipitation a new political crisis.

Signs of increasing military activity in the north and east of El Salvador appeared to indicate that the threatened guerrilla offensive was beginning.

The guerrillas, operating under the umbrella of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Movement, have denounced the elections as a farce and promised to disrupt the poll.

In what was seen as a first step, guerrillas yesterday captured a small town in the province of Morazan, 120 miles north-east of San Salvador. Scattered firing was reported today around the provincial capital, San Francisco Gotera, which is crammed with refugees.

In San Salvador, troops were stationed in residential areas as a precaution against guerrilla attacks.

Early today firing broke out around the headquarters of the election commission when a unit of the National Guark mistook a group of treasury police for guerrillas.

The Savadoran military is considered capable of meeting the threat posed by the guerrillas, should the all-out offensive they have promised materialize in the days before the elections.

The guerrillas, however, have already let it be known that the aim of the offensive would not be to seize control of the country. Rather the intention would be to create an atmosphere of chaos which would damage the credibility of the electoral process.

President Duarte, meanwhile, has rejected claims by the extreme right that the result of Sunday's vote has been rigged in advance. He said that the armed forces, the election commission and foreign observers, including two from Britain, would ensure a free and fair vote.

□ **Amsterdam:** The bodies of four Dutch newsmen killed in El Salvador last week arrived here today and autopsies were being performed on them at once, a Dutch Justice Ministry spokesman said (Reuter reports).

He said a pathologist's report would be sent to the Dutch Government, which is compiling a report on the deaths of the four members of a television news crew.

The Dutch Ambassador to Mexico has visited El Salvador and completed an investigation into the killings on March 17.

□ **Guatemala City:** The three losing candidates in this month's Guatemalan presidential election spoke out last night in favour of the bloodless military coup which ousted the Government of General Lucas Garcia on Tuesday (AFP reports).

All three, ranging from right-of-centre to far right, had earlier maintained that the March 7 elections were rigged.

At the same time, a crowd of thousands assembled in a park in front of the presidential palace to cheer the "young officers' coup", which installed a three-man junta headed by General Efrain Rios Montt, who ran for president eight years ago on a centrist Christian Democratic ticket.

High-level contacts to reduce the tension

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington, March 25

The foreign ministers of three Central American states — El Salvador, Honduras and Costa Rica — held talks with President Reagan and Mr Alexander Haig, the Secretary of State, today to discuss the latest developments in the troubled region.

Among the subjects which the ministers were to review were the coup in Guatemala, the forthcoming elections in El Salvadore, the Hondurans call for arms reductions in Central America and Mr Reagan's recently announced Caribbean basin plan.

Washington is moving towards fresh negotiations aimed at reducing tension in the area. Senior American and Nicaraguan officials are expected to hold talks soon after the El Salvador elections are over to consider ways of resolving the numerous differences between Washington and the left-wing Sandinist a Government in Managua.

There have also been reports that General Vernon Walters, an American envoy, has either just been on a secret visit to Cuba or is about to make such a journey. The State Department has refused to comment on these reports.

The three ministers taking part in today's meeting were Señor Chavez Mena of El Salvador, Señor Bernd Niehaus of Costa Rica, and Señor Edgardo Paz Barnica of Honduras. Last January, their countries formed the Central American Democratic Community, an American-backed group that aims to promote democracy in the region.

Honduras and Costa Rica have held general elections within the past three months and have been watching with interest — and some considerable anxiety — El Salvador's attempts to hold and election in the midst of a rapidly spreading conflict between government forces and left-wing guerrillas.

They are concerned that the military coup in Guatemala, which took place only two weeks after elections had been held in that country, will undermine attempts to replace Central American dictatorships by democratically-elected governments. They also fear that Sunday's elections in El Salvador will not resolve that country's conflict.

Washington was expected to reaffirm its support for the democratic process in Central America at today's meetings. American officials were also expected to outline what they hope to achieve by holding further talks with Nicaragua and, possibly, Cuba as well, both of which are backing the left-wing insurgents operating in the region.

America has welcomed the Honduran proposal made earlier this week for a reduction of weapons and troop levels in Central America "to levels strictly necessary for defence, territorial integrity and public order."

Crisis for Israel



Keeping in touch: Mr Bassam Shaka, the unseated Mayor of Nablus.

PLO split over Gaza killing

From Robert Fisk, Beirut, March 25

In a statement which caused both disbelief and dissension within the ranks of the Palestine Liberation Organization, the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine — a pro-Moscow PLO guerrilla movement — claimed responsibility today for the fatel grenade attack on Israeli troops in Gaza.

Complete with references to their "heroic guerrillas", the DFLP stated baldly that one of its members had killed the Israeli soldier and wounded his colleagues. The communiqué, printed in Arabic and distributed in Beirut, was — to put it mildly — an extremely serious development.

Few Palestinians in Beirut believe that the DFLP is capable of carrying out an attack in Gaza, although its members have in the past staged cross-border raids into Israel from southern Lebanon. "Those people in the DFLP", one angry PLO official said tonight, "would claim that they landed a man on the moon."

But this afternoon's statement, however meretricious, was the first claim of Palestinian responsibility for an attack against Israel since last July's ceasefire between Palestinians and Israelis. If the Israelis are looking for evidence that the PLO is behing the violence in the occupied West Bank, they can now assert that they have the proof.

Throughout the Arab world today, there were protests, demonstrations and sympathy strikes on behalf of the West Bank Palestinians. In Beirut, automatic gunfire could be heard around the Palestinians camps as shopkeeepers in the west of the city observed a token — though not unanimous — strike. Mr Yassir Arafat, the PLO chairman, attended a special meeting of his executive committee, when the session was rudely interrupted by the news of the DFLP's claim.

Officially sponsored strikes were staged in Damascus and Amman, where civil servants were ordered to express solidarity with the Palestinians. The authorities in North Yemen followed their example, while a Kuwaiti minister condemned the "Escalation of Israeli oppression" in the West Bank. Even Turkey — which maintains diplomatic relations with Israel — forsook its traditional non-interference in Arab-Israeli politics by accusing Israel of threatening peace and security in the Middle East.

There is, however, still considerable anxiety among Arab nations that the violence in the West Bank will lead to an Israeli attack on Lebanon, and the PLO — no doubt fearing such an eventuality — today denied that any of its guerrillas had been infiltrating Major Saad Haddad's south Lebanese enclave. The Israelis said yesterday that their troops had arrested several armed Palestinians who had been trying to cross the frontier, but the PLO insisted that its men had been "kidnapped". It did not explain what they had been doing near — or in — the strip of territory controlled by the major.

For the Palestinians — and for the Israelis — the future still turns on the interpretation which each side gives to the unwritten ceasefire agreement last July. The PLO last week accused the Israelis of breaching the truce on 193 occasions, including overflights by Israeli aircraft above Lebanon.

According to Mr Dean Fischer, An American State Department spokesman, the ceasefire involves "all hostile military activity from Lebanon into Israel and vice versa and therefore any hostile action originating from Lebanon but going through Syria and Jordan into Israel". Under this broad interpretation, today's claim by the DFLP would automatically qualify as a truce volation.

Dismissals deplored by Britain

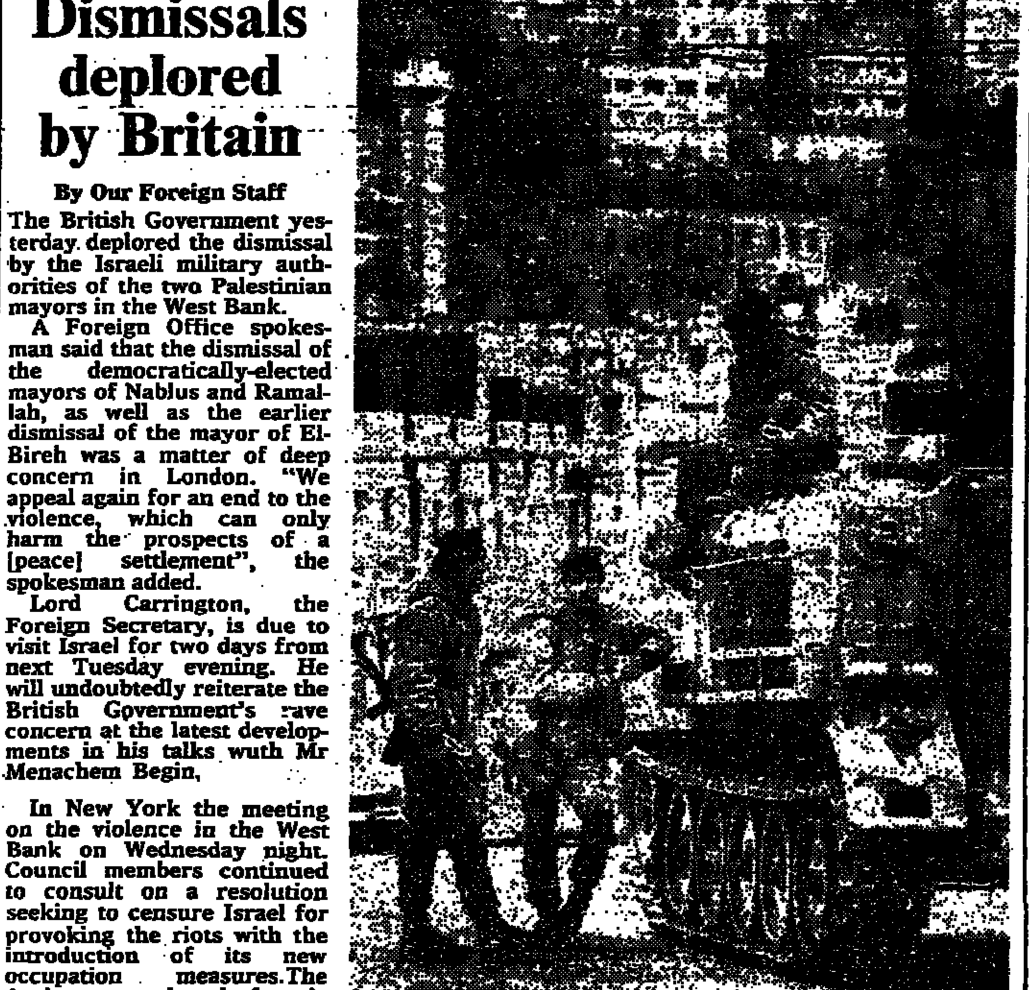
By Our Foreign Staff

The British Government yesterday deplored the dismissal by the Israeli military authorities of the two Palestinian mayors in the West Bank.

A Foreign Office spokesman said that the dismissal of the democratically-elected mayors of Nablus and Ramallah, as well as the earlier dismissal of the mayor of El-Bireh was a matter of deep concern in London. "We appeal again for an end to the violence, which can only harm the prospects of a [peace] settlement", the spokesman added.

Lord Carrington, the Foreign Secretary, is due to visit Israel for two days from next Tuesday evening. He will undoubtedly reiterate the British Government's rave concern at the latest developments in his talks wuth Mr Menachem Begin,

In New York the meeting on the violence in the West Bank on Wednesday night. Council members continued to consult on a resolution seeking to censure Israel for provoking the riots with the introduction of its new occupation measures. The Arab-sponsored draft is demanding the reinstalment of the elected Palestinian council of El-Bireh.



Standing guard: Israeli troops with an armoured personnel carrier policing a Nablus street.

Peking is sceptical of Soviet peace plea

From David Bonavia Hongkong, March 25

China is expected to take a sceptical view of President Brezhnev's latest offer of unconditional talks on relations with the Soviet Union. However, The Peking leadership may consider it useful to give an impression of mild interest in the proposal, if only to put pressure on President Reagan to be more accommodating over Taiwan.

China has always set preconditions for talks to heal the rift with the Soviet Union, and there is no sign that it has dropped these. As a prelude to talks, China has insisted on settlement of the border problem. As a precondition for talks on that issue, it has demanded that the Soviet Union admits having seized Chinese territory over and above the "unequal treaties" of the nineteenth century. Moscow has always balked at this.

Though China considers Khrushchev and Kosygin, the former Soviet prime minister, as mainly responsible for the present state of relations, it has endlessly vilified Mr Brezhnev for what it considers to be his policy of "hegemonic" expansion in the Third World, and for the Soviet Strategic threat to Western Europe.

To learn that Mr Brezhnev still considers China to be a Communist country will evoke mainly irony in Peking, the seat of the most far-reaching and radical experiments in applied Marxist theory over the past three decades.

It is several years since Peking called a halt to political attacks on the internal state of affairs in the Soviet Union, but the Chinese consider that the "World Socialist camp" no longer exists, because of Soviet policies.

Hijacker of Tshombe plane gets 20 years

From Harry Debelius Madrid, March 25

A military court in Palma de Mallorca today sentenced a self-confessd secret agent for Zaire, M. François Bodenan, a Frenchman, to 20 years plus one day imprisonment for the 1967 hijacking of a chartered private aircraft that flew M Moise Tshombe, the prominent Congolese politician, to imprisonment and death in Algiers.

The court found M Bodenan guilty of violating M Tshombe's civil rights by forcing the pilot to change course on a flight that was originally intended to take him from Ibiza to Mallorca.

The court martial yesterday lasted five and one-half hours, and the seven-officer panel agreed early today on the verdict and sentence.

During the trial, M Bodenan's lawyer queried the court's right to try his client, arguing that the case should have gone to a civil court under the terms of the Spanish constitution of 1978. He also said that the defendant should be set free under King Juan Carlos's 1977 amnesty which covered political offences. Finally, he claimed that no crime was committed in Spain as he alleged the hijacking took place outside Spanish air space.

M Bodenan testified that it was not a hijacking but a "legal detention", because he was acting as an agent for Zaire, where Mr Tshombe was wanted by the authorities.

M Bodenan was arrested in 1979 in Belgium and extradited to Spain the same year. He has been held since in prison in Palma awaiting trial. At the time charges were brought against him, the offence came under the jurisdiction of Spanish Air Force courts.

E Germany passes law that guards must shoot

From Patricia Clough, Bonn, March 25

The East German Parliament today passed a law formally instructing border guards to shoot fellow citizens trying to escape into West Berlin and elsewhere in West Germany.

The law finally laid out what had been the subject of mainly secret orders for the past 19 years. At least 186 escapers have been shot, blown up by mines or killed by self-firing devices on the borders since 1949.

Herr Alfred Neumann, the First Deputy Prime Minister, said afterwards that the law contained "nothing more or less than what is done in other countries." He was evidently trying to compare it with instructions to border police in Western countries to shoot presumed criminals who try to escape across borders, ignoring instructions to halt.

The East German law justified the shooting on the grounds that it was designed to prevent a crime. The "crime" is escape from East Germany, which is punishable by jail, or in certain cases, death. Guards are ordered to fire if a warning shout or shot is ignored but not at children or innocent bystanders.

They should also avoid "if possible" shooting at women and young people. Since the previous instructions were mostly secret, it is not known if this represents any change.

Escapes to the West has been reduced to a trickle by the ever improved fortifications on the borders. Last year about 300 East Germans succeeded in getting across. Two youths aged 17 and 19 last night made their way unharmed across an unmined stretch of the border into Bavaria.

Herr Heins Hoffmann, the East German defence minister, also announced that East German military reservists would have to do more exercises to make up for the shortage of recruits caused by the decline in the birth rate.

East Germany, like West Germany, produced far fewer babies after the arrival of the contraceptive pill in the 1960s and 1970s and seems also to be facing the problem of finding enough soldiers to meet its military pact commitments.

Reservists will have to do a total of 24 months military training, divided into periods of up to three months in any one year. After some debate, the authorities have decided not to extend the 18 month national service period.

The Parliament also passed a law permitting the Army to call up women in times of general mobilization, apparently to bear arms.

It also formally legalized the practice of military training in schools and universities which has brought many protests and helped to fuel a growing mood of pacifism among young East Germans.

FRENCH TO RETIRE AT 60

From Our Own Correspondent Paris, March 25

French men and women are to retire at the age of 60. That was approved today by the Cabinet along with several other measures designed, in the words of M Pierre Beregovoy, the Elyée secretary-general, to improve the living and working conditions of the workers.

The decrees cover the controversial issue of increased workers' rights in industry; guaranteed professional training for young people aged 16 to 18; and the creation of "holiday cheques".

The holiday project, first mooted but never carried out by M Giscard d'Estaing, the former President, enables those on low incomes to save during the year against their summer or winter holidays. Sums they put by will be partly matched by tax-free contributors by their employers.

These measures will have a much more direct impact on most people that the suppression of the Court for State Security, the abolition of the death penalty, nationalization and decentralization, which have been the great affair of the first nine months of socialist rule under President Mitterrand.

The Government was working against time to put its campaign promises into action. The enabling law voted by Parliament last December for three months expires in less than a week's time.

US HINTS AT ARMS INITIATIVE

By Henry Stanhope Defence Correspondent

American sources at Colorado Springs, where Nato defence ministers have been holding a two-day meeting of the alliance's Nuclear Planning Group, have hinted at "bold initiatives" in the strategic arms reduction talks (START) which are expected to open this summer.

But the West European allies expecting to be consulted by the Americans on the Western position first — in line with the policy before the intermediate-range nuclear forces (INF) talks which opened between the superpowers in Geneva last November.

It was for the INF negotiations that President Reagan drew up his previous "bold initiative" — the proposal to do away with all long-range nuclear missiles in Europe under the so-called "zero option".

In their Colorado Springs communique, the allies rejected President Brezhnev's latest gambit in which he offered to suspend deployment of SS20 missiles. Nato ministers pointed out that such a freeze would still leave the Russians with an overwhelming superiority if Nato responded by scrapping American plans.

The communique was said to be carefully worded, however, to avoid upsetting some allies who felt the Mr Brezhnev's proposal was at least a step in the right direction.

EEC silver jubilee

Obstinacy 'perverting' the spirit

From George Clark, Strasbourg, March 25

Mr Gaston Thorn, President of the European Commission, today reiterated his warning of the crisis which had hit the Community through the pursuit of national interests and lack of decision in the Council of Ministers.

He told the European Parliament on the twenty-fifth anniversary of the signing of the Treaty of Rome: "Too often decisions are never taken because we have these endless discussions. This means that the Community spirit has become perverted, it has changed the role which is played by the actors. They are refusing to compromise and it is the force of national interests, national obstinacy, which is given primacy."

Without naming Britain, Mr Thorn obviously had Mrs Margaret Thatcher and her Government in mind when he added: "Prizes are being given to those who show a negative attitude."

Nothing illustrated better the unwieldy functioning of the Community than the attempt to get agreement on the mandate of May 30, 1980, on the restructuring of finances and budgetary contributions. Eight months of discussion, two European summits, five sessions of the Council of Ministers, two missions by the President of the EEC, and joint missions by the presidents of the council and the Commission had produced no agreement.

It had become more and more urgent that the member states should return to the ideas of European unity propounded by founders of the Community and develope European policies which would have relevance to the ordinary citizen in the fight against unemployment and inflation.

Ministers in the European Council were hesitating because they would not make the tiniest sacrifices which were called for. "We need to have some vision of the future", Mr Thorn said.

"The special meeting of the council on April 3 should, in my opinion, be the place where decisions are taken on everything not just on the budgetary compromise, but on everything which is covered by the mandate. I hope for this. I pray for it. It would be quite intolerable if that meeting brought us to another cul de sac, and further delays."

Mr Thorn thought the meeting should be the opportunity to relaunch the Community and make it relevant ot the ordinary people. People were inclined to think that the Community was useless as they tried to face the economic crisis.

□ **Paris:** President Mitterrand denied categorically today that the French Government had accepted the compromise formula on the British budget contribution proposed by Mr Thorn and Mr Leo Tindemans, President of the Council of Ministers, at the meeting of the Council of Ministers in Brussels this week (Charles Hargrove writes).

The President, who was speaking at today's Cabinet meeting, said that France had given no agreement at the last meeting. The discussion on this matter would have to be pursued, and the standpoint of France would naturally have to be taken into account.

President Mitterrand is convinced that any yield on the budget offers no guarantee on an endorsement by Britain of farm price increases of the size which the French governmemt considers essential.

France might be prepared to look again at the document when the proposals contained in it have been costed, but there is practically no hope that an agreement can be reached by ministers of agriculture at the end of this month.

Leading article page 9

Warsaw maintains its hardline policy

From Our Correspondent, Warsaw, March 25

Mr Jozef Czyrek, the Polish Foreign Minister, today emphasized again the official government line that the authorities would not bow to Western economic pressures by making political concessions.

"The Western countries make lifting of the restrictions against Poland contingent on the fulfilment by the Polish authorities of specific political conditions, "said Mr Czyrek, opening a two-day session of the Polish Parliament (Sejm). "This is inadmissible from the point of view of international law and provisions of the Helsinki Final Act. It is also unrealistic."

Mr Czyrek, quoting remarks by General Jaruzelski, the Polish leader, reiterated that Poland would not back down before any foreign ultimatums or interference in the country's internal affairs. His comments, at least on the surface, shoot down a trial balloon launched last week by some moderates within ruling circles who argued that some political concessions might be necessary to avert an economic collapse.

Writing in a supplement to the influential weekly *Polityka*, Mr Andrzej Olechowski, head of the analysis and forecasting dapartment of the Institute of Economic Trends and Prices in Foreign Trade, forecast that unless Poland received substantial new credits from both West and East, the drop in the country's national income could be even greater than the 17 to 22 per cent predicted for this year.

Mr Olechowski concluded : "It therefore seems necessary to take steps leading to an alleviation of the sanctions and obtaining credits in the capitalist countries. These steps should include both external and internal political measures which would lead to a national agreement and a removal of the reasons for which the sanctions were imposed, or at least at diversifying the Western countries' stand on this issue."

But in his speech, Mr Czyrek emphasized Poland's dependence on the Soviet Union and its Warsaw Pact allies for help in pulling the country out of its economic crisis, while expressing hope that the Western countries would show a more "realistic" approach. The Polish Foreign Minister said that the Polish economy would have been "broken" without £2,000m in economic credits granted by the Soviet Union over the past 16 months.

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rom Harry Debelius
Madrid, March 25

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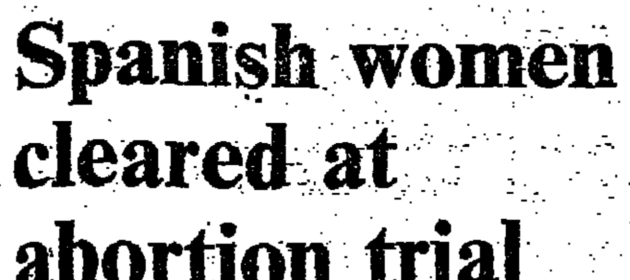
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Spanish women cleared at abortion trial

From Richard Wigg, Madrid, March 25

A Bilbao provincial court today completely absolved nine women who stood trial eight days ago for seeking secret abortions at various times before October, 1976.

In a judgment likely to echo throughout Spanish society, the court emphasized that it was seeking to respect the rights of women proclaimed in the 1978 democratic constitution.

The court took the biggest step forward within its power to bring the country into line with most of Western Europe over abortions, despite the determination of Roman Catholic circles to keep it a crime.

Besides clearing nine working class women, all with low levels of education, and several unemployed husbands and sickness in their families, the court urged an individual pardon by the executive for Señora Julia Garcia, under the 1977 general amnesty. She was sentenced to 12 years, six months and three days imprisonment after being found guilty of aborting three women in the case. The prosecutor had asked, under the penalties dating from the Franco era, for a sentence of up to 60 years for her.

It also imposed the minimum prison sentence possible on Señor José Seara of one month and one day, which he has already served for bringing the women to Señora Garcia.

At the time of the abortions sale of contraceptives was illegal in Spain. None of the accused had gone to doctors.

Prison for abortion still remains on the statute book and Señor Leopoldo Calvo Sotelo, the Prime Minister, confirmed only last weekend, after seeing the Pope in Rome, that he and his Government were opposed to introducing any legislation to make it cease to be a crime.

An international conference on the family, organized by Spanish catholics, now being held in Madrid, immediately condemned the court's verdict. Various extreme right-wing organizations are threatening street demonstrations.

The Bilbao court has significantly changed the issue by emphasizing the "state of necessity" in which the nine women of Basauri found themselves. One told the court that a policewoman remarked when arresting her: "To have got an abortion without complications you should have gone to London."

A leading Spanish woman's doctor today estimated there are 200,000 to 250,000 clandestine abortions a year in Spain, while it is believed up to 50,000 more women, who can afford it, go to England for safe abortion operations.

The court admitted it was acting without Parliament having got the legislation through, in accordance with the 1978 constitution. In a passage likely to upset the church the court gave priority to the rights of the women over the foetus as embryonic life.

NEWS IN SUMMARY

Man dies as consulate is stormed

Bombay — Fifty people, their motive unclear, attacked the United States Consulate with rocks and petrol bombs and one attacker was shot dead by police. Eight cars belonging to consulate staff were burned but no injuries reported among the American staff.

The attackers, 30 of whom were arrested, were said either to be members of Shiv Sena, a fanatical group, or members of the Azad Hind Sena (Independent India Army).

Seal killing ends early

St Johns, Newfoundland. — Seal hunters, after a smaller than usual annual cull, have put a premature end to the killing of pups amid gloom over official support in Western Europe for a ban on seal pelt imports. Prices went down by 40 per cent after the European Parliament's vote for an import ban.

Sources here said that six Canadian ships operating off Newfoundland had returned to port with only half their quota. Hunters took less than 3,000 out of their fixed quota of 6,000 pelts of hooded seals.

Walkout over Khmer Rouge

Bangkok. — The Soviet Union and four of its Asian allies walked out of a United Nations regional economic conference when a representative of the Khmer Rouge addressed the gathering as the delegate of Cambodia. Afghanistan, Vietnam, Laos and Mongolia joined the Soviet Union in the walkout. They maintain that the Khmer Rouge no longer represents the Cambodian people.

Turtle island turns turtle

Dar es Salaam. — Maziwi Island, off north Tanzania, which was the main nesting place for sea turtles along the East African coast has disappeared beneath the sea, the Tanzanian Daily News reports. Two researchers could find no trace of it nor of the turtles.

Soviet scientist killed in crash

Moscow. — Aleksandr Sidorenko, a vice-president of the Soviet Academy of Sciences and a former government minister, was killed in a car crash on Tuesday while visiting Algeria. He was 64. As Minister of Geology from 1965 until 1976 he played an important role in his country's intensive development of oil and other mineral resourses.

Red Cross team told to leave

Nairobi. — Uganda has asked the International Committee of the Red Cross to leave the country, according to Red Cross officials. The functions of the eight-man team would be taken over by the Ugandan branch of the Red Cross.





Lord Carrington: "Worldwide involvement remains."

Carrington reflects on influence

By Our Foreign Staff

Britain has far more influence and opportunity to exercise influence around the world than the bare statistics of military and economic strength would suggest, Lord Carrington, the Foreign Secretary, said last night.

"It would be as foolish to neglect these opportunities, and to abandon to others the task of shaping the world in which our future lies, as it would be to pretend to a super-power status which we do not have and to face the inevitable penalties of trying to do too much", he told an audience at the Royal Institute of International Affairs at Chatham House.

Lord Carrington, whose speech was part of a series of lectures to commemorate the establishment of the office of Foreign Secretary 200 years ago, was reflecting on Britain's role in the 1980s and how he regarded his job. His words confirmed the general impression that he finds his work exhilarating.

"But our worldwide involvement remains," he said. "Britain exports about 30 per cent of her gross domestic product; it has enormous investments abroad, of which about two-thirds are outside Europe; and it has been estimated that over 3 million Britons may live abroad. It follows that every day foreign governments are taking decisions that intimately affect the jobs and the lives of ordinary British people.

"I cannot understand those who say that because we are not a super-power, foreign policy and the Foreign Office are no longer important."

He said that one of the priorities he had set himself was close contact with the British public to explain what was being done in their name and to listen to their views.

OVER POPULATION
STARVATION
NATURAL DISASTERS
LURIE THE TIMES LONDON

Bangladesh coups

Ousted Dacca leader faces execution

By Leslie Plommer

Mr Abdus Sattar, the ousted President of Bangladesh, and his Cabinet face the death penalty if put on trial and found guilty of abuse of power or corruption by new martial law courts, Dacca radio announced yesterday.

Spelling out the stern features of martial law imposed after Wednesday's quiet coup by Lieutenant-General Hussain Muhammad Ershad, the Army Chief of Staff, other broadcasts listed martial law decrees banning meetings and "direct or indirect" political activity. Press censorship has been imposed and all criticism of the regime has been banned.

These "anti-state" infractions carry prison sentences up to seven years, while more serious offences, including illegal possession of arms, carry life imprisonment or the death penalty.

Mr Sattar, aged 76, is said to be back at his bungalow and "under police protection" in Dacca, having left the presidential palace. Until the ominous radio reference emphasizing that former presidents and vice-presidents, along with ministers, police and Army officers are liable for maximum sentences in corruption cases, Mr Sattar's name had not generally been connected with the malpractice allegedly involving some of his colleagues.

Meanwhile, unconfirmed reports quote official sources as saying that several political leaders are already under arrest. They are said to include Mr Saifur Rahman, dismissed in February as Finance Minister; Mr Chowdhury Tanvir Ahmed Siddiky, former State Minister for Commerce; and Mr Atauddin Khan, former State Minister for Manpower Development.

Three other former ministers were already under arrest on embezzlement charges. They are Mr S. A. Bari, a former Deputy Prime Minister, Mr Nurul Huq, former Shipping Minister, and Mr K. M. Obaidur Rahman, former Civil Aviation Minister.

It is not clear whether Mr Abul Kasham, former Youth Minister and a powerful Bangladesh National Party figure, is in detention. He was held but released recently after a party colleague wanted in connexion with seven murders was arrested at Mr Kashem's house.

Britain has cancelled a planned visit to Dacca next week by Mr Neil Martens, a Foreign Minister for Overseas Development who was to tour projects and meet ministers to discuss aid to Bangladesh.

Poll setback puts strain on Dutch coalition

From Robert Schuil, Amsterdam, March 25

The ruling Dutch centre-left coalition — composed of Christian Democrats, Labour and leftist Democrats 66 had come under heavy pressure in the wake of yesterday's provincial elections.

Both Labour and Democrats 66 suffered politically significant losses. For Labour in particular the result of the poll was an electoral disaster.

Significantly the big winner was the conservative Liberal Party, the country's main opposition. Until last May's parliamentary elections they formed a centre-right coalition with the Christian Democrats. Now they are the country's second largest political party in percentage terms.

The final returns of the election in which 705 members of the country's 11 provincial assemblies were chosen, showed that the Labour Party had fallen from 28.27 per cent of the national vote in last May's election to 21.75 per cent. Translated into parliamentary terms it means that had this been a general election, Labour would have lost 10 of its 44 seats in the 150-seat Lower House.

In last May's elections Labour already lost nine seats, underscoring how its popularity has eroded since the 1977 general election, when it emerged as the country's largest party with 53 seats.

If the Liberals' climb to 22.2 per cent of the vote in yesterday's election from 17.31 per cent last May is translated into parliamentary terms, they would have increased their seats from 26 to 34.

DUTCH PROVINCIAL ELECTIONS

	% vote provincial elections 1982	% vote national elections 1981	% vote provincial elections 1978
Christian Democrats	33.4	30.86	35.07
Labour	21.75	28.27	33.8
Liberals	22.2	17.31	16.95
Democrats 66	8.3	11.04	5.2
Small left-wing parties	7.9	5.9	4.2
Small right-wing parties	5.0	3.3	3.5
Other	1.1	1.9	0.5

This is particularly significant because together with the Christian Democrats, who climbed from 30.86 per cent last May to 33.4 per cent yesterday, they could now have a comfortable majority in the Lower House. The Christian Democrats have increased — if the provincial gains are translated into parliamentary terms — their seats from 48 to 52. Together these former coalition partners would now have an 11-seat majority in the Lower House.

Mr Andries van Agt, the Christian Democrat Prime Minister, who has never made a secret of the fact that he was far happier running the country with the Liberals than with the Socialists, may therefore be tempted to induce a crisis in the present coalition.

He has already indicated that he expects greater compliance from Labour and the Democrats 66, with Christian Democrat views in the Cabinet. And this could easily lead to a crisis

Shock for Lee Kuan Yew

Singaporeans support their lone ranger

From David Watts, Singapore, March 25

The image of Singapore as a country united and content through its spectacular economic success has been jolted by confidential soundings taken by the ruling People's Action Party (PAP).

The survey showed that the party leadership has not been receiving accurate feedback from the grassroots, either through poor intelligence or an unwillingness to bear bad news. No details of the survey have been made public. The PAP has always closely guarded details of its organization and methods, but it is understood that the survey showed a greater degree of disaffection with the Government than Mr Lee Kuan Yew, the Prime Minister, had been aware of — contradicting the assumption that economic progress equals voter contentment.

But what was perhaps more disturbing to the party was that, according to the soundings, many voters are enthusiastic about having an opposition in Parliament. Mr J. B. Jeyaretnam won a seat in a by-election last October on behalf of the Workers' Party and since then Mr Lee and other PAP leaders have consistently warned Singaporeans that more harm than good was likely to come from the advent of opposition in Parliament.

Mr Sinnathamby Rajaratnam, the Second Deputy Prime Minister, was given a warning of the "intellectual dishonesty" of the argument that having a parliamentary opposition would help the Government to govern better. Noting that Singapore's most rapid progress had been made in the years from 1965 to 1981, "blessed by no factious, querulous, carping opposition in Parliament", Mr Lee recently said that those who wanted an opposition would find that it made no difference, if Singapore was lucky.

"Unfortunately they may discover, at great cost, that if we are unlucky, like most developing countries, an opposition can make for confusion by raising false expectations of unattainable benefits from greater welfare spending, as in Britain, and in so many Third World countries. Instead of sound planning and hard work to achieve the progress of their countries, these opposition groups raise false hopes of easy give-aways from an imaginary pie."

Plainly many Singaporeans do not agree with their rulers on the validity of an opposition.

It was two months after Mr Jeyaretnam's victory that Mr Lee ordered soundings to be taken through party chairmen, secretaries, community officials and trade unionists throughout Singapore's 75 constituencies. He wanted to know what was the public's assessment of the idea to an opposition in Parliament, its view of Mr Jeyaretnam and on the performance of the PAP. The soundings were taken both on an official party level and privately.

The two strands of the inquiry produced drastically different results. The party soundings recorded general satisfaction with the PAP while private soundings produced a diffferent story.

The message that came back was one of welcome for more opposition MPs.

Mr Jeyaratnam's questioning in parliament has brought out all manner of information which would otherwise have not been available to the public. There is a feeling, too, that he can keep an eye on what the government is doing.

But the government has not won much praise for the way it has been treating Mr Jeyaretnam. The public sometimes find it hard to understand why the government was being so hard on Mr Jeyaretnam "just for asking questions." The Government has indeed gone out of its way to make sure that Mr Jeyaretnam gets at least as good as he gives. The present parliamentary session has seen government ministers shunning the Workers' Party member who appears unperturbed by the whole thing.

Arrigo Levi: A Personal View

Berlinguer trapped in vicious circle

When a man does not behave according to his real nature and inclinations, his behaviour is likely to become erratic and he often makes surprising mistakes.

Signor Enrico Berlinguer, the secretary of Italy's Communist Party and a mediator and conciliator, who characteristically labelled his greatest political idea "the historical compromise", has recently tried to prove that he can also be the leader of an embattled party, engaged in a fierce war with all kinds of enemies: the Soviet Union, the Christian Democrats, and Signor Bettino Craxi, the Socialist leader.

In his new role, however, Signor Berlinguer is completely out of character, is making serious mistakes and risks losing his authority in the party.

The latest mistake was, to allow the editor of the party newspaper L'Unita, a bright but inexperienced young man, to launch a fierce attack on two Christian Democrats, one of them a minister, accusing them of having approached a Camorra boss in jail to obtain, through payment of a huge ransom, the liberation by the Red Brigades of their party colleague Signor Ciro Cirillo who had been kidnapped and who was later released.

Unfortunately for L'Unita, the document it published and which was supposed to prove the guilt of the two politicians was soon shown to be a poor fabrication, which would have been easily discovered if the editor had not acted in great secrecy and without consulting his senior colleagues.

Even worse, his action had been authorized by one or two of the party leaders, and almost certainly by Signor Berlinguer himself, with most of the members of the party executive and secretariat being kept in the dark. The party had to admit that an "error of judgment and method" had been made, but criticism mounted against the recklessness shown by the party leader in this case as well as on recent other occasions.

These events prove how unsettling it can be for a Communist Party to cut its traditional links with the Soviet Union — as Signor Berlinguer's party has tried to do with determination in reaction to the tragic events in Poland.

Since they came out with a denunciation of the Soviet party and system, by declaring that the Soviet Union had "exhausted its propelling force" in history, the Italian party leaders have been repeatedly attacked as traitors by the Kremlin.

Pravda and Kommunist have already published four increasingly fierce official condemnations of Signor Berlinguer and friends, while trying to make it appear that the Italian party as such could still be saved for the cause of communism, if only it would get rid of its bad leaders.

Signor Berlinguer must convince his rank and file (one fourth or one fifth of them being still pro-Soviet), that he is no traitor to communism. To strengthen his position, he must leave no room to his left for the creation of another pro-Soviet communist party. This might well come to pass, unless the quarrel with Moscow is patched up

But Signor Berlinguer has no chance of doing that. So to prove that he is still the leader of a "revolutionary" party, he must engage in daily battle with the Christian Democrats. He is then forced to take aggressive initiatives which do not come naturally to him, and he is led to make serious mistakes.

This situation is followed with immense satisfaction by all the other parties in Italy. The "Cirillo scandal" is seen, rather than as an accident, as a clear indication of how serious are the tensions inside the Italian Communist Party, and how strained are the nerves of its leaders. The glee at the Communists' difficulties is increased by the holier than thou attitude always taken by them towards the other parties.

The political consequences of the "Cirillo scandal" could be serious for the Communists. It is beginning to appear unlikely that the present leadership may survive intact the experience of cutting the party's umbilical cord with the Soviet Union. This was seen by the Berlinguer group as an unavoidable step, after Poland, if they wanted to stay in business in Italian politics.

But facing this moment of truth may prove too much for the party's unity. We are witnessing the unfolding of a genuine political drama, which grew out of an unimportant and accidental event but may have vast consequences for Italy's political history.

Sweden reduces bill for salvaging Soviet sub

From Christopher Mosey, Stockholm, March 25

Sweden handed over a drastically pared-down bill for salvaging the Soviet submarine that went on the rocks off its main southern naval base last year to try to improve relations with the Soviet Union.

The bill for the operation in the Karlskrona archipelago came to 1.6m kronor (£160,000) and was officially handed over today. At first the bill was put at 2.5m kronor by the authorities, who had already been ordered by the Government to cut back a demand for 5.2m kronor.

The first bill was delivered to the Soviet Embassy soon after the Russians had lodged a formal protest to the Swedes over the refusal of a visa to Mr Nikolai Nejland, deputy Foreign Minister of the Soviet republic of Latvia.

The Swedish daily newspaper Svenska dagbladet disclosed that the refusal was on the recommendation of the Swedish security police, who accused Mr Nejland of using his position in Sweden to spread communist propaganda.

Mr Nejland, who speaks fluent Swedish, said from his home in Riga, Latvia: "If I have succeeded in spreading communist propaganda in Sweden, then I am extremely happy."

General Lennart Ljung, the Swedish Supreme Commander, this week presented to the Government proposed new measures for combating further submarine incursions.

Race for the Senate

Brown fights low profile campaign

From Michael Hamlyn
San Francisco

Governor Jerry Brown of California is now an official candidate for the Democratic nomination for the United States Senate. He embarks on a "low profile" campaign until June when the primary will be held. This is regarded as an almost certain winner of the primary, but what happens in the general election in November is anybody's guess.

The mid-term elections in California have a unique importance. It is the largest state by population and by economic activity. The Governor of California, as the governor of New York used to be, is automatically considered as a candidate for presidential nomination. Governor Brown missed his chance against Mr Carter, but if he is successful in the Senate election he is young enough at 43, to try again.

The opinion polls, it is true, do show him trailing behind the leading Republican contenders. "When he was first elected people thought that here was a fresh face, a new kind of figure", explained a Republican Party official. "But he turns out to be just an old-fashioned kind of politician, and not a very good one. He's arrogant, indecisive, and flip-flops [changes his mind] on the issues."

A big "flip-flop" was over the medfly. Should the state of California conduct aerial spraying against the dread fruit pest or not? Governor Brown got into such public torment that Gore Vidal, the novelist, who will also compete against him for the Democratic nomination in June, calls him "the lord of the flies."



Mr Goldwater: War chests brimming over.

The fact that Governor Brown is trailing his probable rivals is not — at present — causing his party a great deal of concern. Mr Peter Kelly, Democratic Party chairman for southern California, pointed out that Mr Brown was in a much worse position at the end of his first term in office four years ago. "No one would have given you anything for his chances of reelection", he said. "But he is a very good campaigner, and he fought back to win, from an apparently hopeless position. He can do the same again."

The man regarded as most likely to win the republican nomination for senator is Barry Goldwater, the son of the veteran senator and former presidential candidate from Arizona. He himself is a member of the House of Representatives from Santa Barbara.



Governor Brown: Plain old-fashioned politician.

He is not regarded particularly highly either within the party or outside of it, being a man of no outstanding achievements or abilities, but his father's influence counts for a great deal, particularly in his ability to raise funds. His war chest is likely to be the fullest, and another advantage he has is what the politicians here call "name I. D." — people recognize who he is.

One of his rivals whose family connexion is proving less helpful is Maureen Reagan, the daughter of the President. Her father has not endorsed her and she seems to spend most of her campaign decrying his policies. She's expected to run out of cash before very long and is already finding it difficult to raise more. Her uncle, Mr Neil Reagan, the President's brother, has notably snubbed her by openly endorsing Mr Peter Wilson, the successful Mayor of San Diego.

Representative Paul McCloskey is another front-running candidate. He has an attractive honesty, but it got him into immense trouble with Jewish voters when he was quoted as regretting the power of the Jewish lobby over American foreign affairs.

The other important post at stake in November is the one that Mr Brown is vacating in the Governor's mansion in Sacramento. The Democratic candidate is almost certain to be Mr Thomas Bradley, the present Mayor of Los Angeles. He is an uninspiring orator but has an impressive record, having balanced the budget in each of the last eight years of his office without cutting services too heavily or raising new taxes.

If successful, he would be the first black to be elected governor of any state

Each of the mayor's two Republican opponents is at present fighting for the party's nomination by trying to show himself as the true conservative. They are Mr Michael Curb, the present Lieutenant-Governor of California, and Mr George Deukmejian, who is a slow, deliberate veteran of public office.

Though Democrats dominate the state numerically, Republicans like to think that they get elected to office because of their executive ability. "People say they like the Democrats' programmes so they control the [State] assembly but they think that we are more effective in carrying things out so they elect us to individual offices", a leading Republican said.

Fraser faces double defeat

From Our Correspondent, Melbourne, March 25

A challenge to Mr Malcolm Fraser, the Prime Minister, for his leadership of the Liberal Party is the subject of wide speculation in the last days of the campaign for the Victoria state election, on April 3.

It looks certain that the state will elect a Labour government for the first time since 1955. That means Mr Fraser's grip of the leadership of the party, and his Government's hold on power after next year, will both be in jeopardy.

The challenge has been expected from Mr Andrew Peacock since he resigned from the Cabinet last April. But speculation has grown so strong that Sir Phillip Lynch, the Liberal Party deputy leader, yesterday issued a declaration of support for Mr Fraser after an emergency meeting of the party's ministers.

Mr Peacock today denied he was challenging Mr Fraser and criticized Sir Phillip for issuing the statement of support. This has done little to reduce the speculation that electoral defeat would mean the time was ripe for such a challenge.

The Liberals have reigned comfortably in Victoria for a generation without having to form a coalition with the National Party (formerly the Country Party, representing the most conservative forces in Australian politics). But this year has seen immense change on the political landscape in Victoria and both leading parties have, one way or another, found themselves with new leaders.

The Liberal Party's popular Premier, Mr Rupert Hamer, was attacked by business interests who found him too progressive, and on his return from a holiday in Hawaii he took the opportunity to retire prematurely. His place was taken by his loyal deputy, Mr Lindsay Thompson, a diligent, honest and capable man but with a somewhat dull image.





President Duarte (left) and supporters of his electoral rival, Robert d'Aubuisson

The most misunderstood revolution

El Salvador's vital election takes place on Sunday. David Browning argues that the achievements of President Duarte's rule have been undervalued by Western opinion

El Salvador is indeed a battleground. Unfortunately, the presentation by the media of the nature of the battle being fought there is in large part unbalanced.

The dominant preoccupation of the several hundred journalists now crowded into San Salvador's Camino Real hotel is with saturation coverage of every military action, of every act of terrorism and of the desperate sufferings of the innocent civilians caught in the cross-fire. Such tragedies occur daily and must be reported; but a profound social revolution has been initiated by the present Revolutionary Junta of El Salvador *with the support of the majority of the nation's population* and its achievements have been sadly neglected.

The need for revolutionary change in El Salvador is self-evident. Agriculture, whether for export or subsistence, is the foundation of the economy and land ownership has constituted the basis of power and privilege. For a century, ownership of land was concentrated in the hands of an oligarchy of less than 3 per cent of the population, which annually received one-third of the nation's income. The majority were obliged to live in poverty as dependent workers on the plantations.

In 1932 this unjust poverty, exacerbated then as now by international economic depression, caused a rebellion of the Salvadorean peasantry. Ruling class fear of rebellion provoked its brutal suppression and a shift in political power towards the army, which, by military dictatorship and the acquiescence of the oligarchy, ruled the country until 1979.

In El Salvador, as elsewhere in Latin America, it is such injustice which provides the seed-bed for social discontent and popular demands for change. Ironically, the opportunities most favourable to the advance of fascism and communism become greatest precisely at that point where moderate political leaders are able to respond to popular demands for a change.

In such circumstances those whose privilege and power are threatened by reforms will seek to oppose them by reinforcing the tyranny of the right. Those seeking the violent implantation of the tyranny of the Left will oppose reforms which demonstrate a capability for succeeding without tyranny.

In El Salvador, those most culpable for the daily violence and abuse of human rights are groups of political extremists — guerrillas on the Left, death squads on the Right — which both receive material backing from abroad. Neither extreme has the support of the majority of the population.

Their eventual aims are very different but their immediate aims are identical: to destroy at birth the fundamental changes which, for the first time could give El Salvador democratic institutions based on social and economic justice.

Since 1980, the character and power of the junta have derived from a pact between the Christian Democratic Party (PDC) led by Duarte and those army officers responsible for the 1979 overthrow of the Romero dictatorship. PDC agreement to this pact was given on two conditions: the army reform of itself; and army support for thorough reforms. The first demand has been met in part; with major purges of senior commanders. Realization of the second condition has initiated a process which, may already have become an irreversible democratic revolution.

The keystone of this revolution is an inter-connected series of reforms: expropriation of the country's 325 largest plantations and reorganization of these as peasant cooperatives, review of medium-sized estates and landlord-tenant relations; nationalization of the banks and merchant houses and the encouragement of local peasant self-government.

All this could not have been achieved without the support of an army in which traditional attitudes have been transformed and certainly it would have been impossible without the existence of the PDC. The Christian Democrats are a broadly based political movement in El Salvador able to claim consistent opposition over 20 years to the previous power structure. Duarte's personal record is the clearest example of this: three times he was elected as a reformist mayor of San Salvador with increased majorities; in 1972 he was elected president as candidate of a united opposition front, was denied his victory, opposed the military by violence and was imprisoned, tortured and exiled.

Unlike his exiled colleagues who have become the public spokesmen for the guerrillas but who do not command them, Duarte voluntarily returned to El Salvador in 1980 to be greeted by 150,000 citizens in the streets of his capital.

These facts underline the importance of Sunday's election. Undoubtedly, this is premature and its proper conduct will be immensely difficult. The guerrillas, though publicly dismissing the elections as a farcical irrelevance, are now using every method to prevent citizens from voting: direct intimidation, destruction of public transport and bridges, and confiscation at gunpoint of the identity cards required by each voter.

Certainly, the West needs an independent judgment on the conduct of these elections and it is fortunate that, alone among west European nations, Britain will have a direct assessment. But perhaps the surest indication of the importance and validity of this election is that there is no one in El Salvador able to predict what the result will be.

It is not at all certain that the Christian Democrats — which as the "ruling party" is so closely associated with the economic and military difficulties of the past two years — will win a majority in a new Constituent Assembly. A new alliance of parties may emerge. One certainty however, is that a profound popular revolution is occurring in El Salvador and any attempt, by either extreme, to reverse or divert the course of this democratic revolution would be resisted by the majority in that country and would cause El Salvador to sink into a truly civil war.

Dr Browning, Fellow of St Cross College, Oxford, is special adviser to the Foreign Affairs select committee of the House of Commons and has recently returned from a visit to El Salvador.

Davis Watt's column will appear next week

Human dynamo in the Sony system

You almost suspect, on meeting Akio Morita, that one of his identically-dressed aides has just changed his master's batteries and slipped an English-speaking video cassette into a hidden slot in the back of his head.

Although unmistakably oriental between his flowing silver hair and his sharply-cut Italian suit, the co-founder and current chairman of the Sony electronics company stands out as one of the most familiar, most westernized and least inscrutable of the Japanese generals who lead their country's assault on western export markets.

Mr Morita is visiting London — for the second time this year — to attend the opening of an exhibition of his company's products at the Boilerhouse, the annexe of the Victoria and Albert Museum established to display good industrial design.

Sony, founded with £250 in 1946 to make voltmeters, is only the 45th largest Japanese company, and is by no means the biggest in the electronics field. But Mr Morita has built its reputation on innovation, launching products people never previously realized that they wanted. He claims to have been the first Japanese exporter to demolish his country's former reputation for shoddy imitation.

"We feel a responsibility to utilize our technology. We should serve mankind all over the world," said Mr Morita, intoning the company philosophy in heavily accented but fluent English. Serving mankind has included introducing Japan to its first tape recorder, and the rest of the world to the transistor radio, the transistorized portable television, the domestic video recorder, the flat pocket television, and many more.

Transistors were an American invention, thought suitable for use only in hearing aids until Mr Morita bought the patent rights and founded a miniaturized empire on them. The search for new applications is endless; Mr Morita's most recent success was to take a small and simple cassette player, attach a set of headphones, and market it as the *Walkman*, the indispensible mobile personal music centre.

"I cannot make up my mind whether the Sony reputation is founded on genuine excellence or good public relations," confided Mr Stephen Bayley, the Boilerhouse director who has spent a week politely asserting his authority over a dozen Sony functionaries who arrived from Tokyo with very fixed ideas on how the exhibition should be staged.



Akio Morita: 'We get to know our markets"

Mr Morita is the living proof that the reputation is in fact founded on marketing. He first came to Europe in 1953 (buying three German cameras) and since then has never ceased travelling the world garnering an intimate knowledge of his markets, existing and potential.

"It is a fact that Japan's trade is too one-way. But how many Europeans commute to Japan, compared with the number of Japanese who commute to Europe? I myself have been here four or five times in the last year. We get to know our markets; unless you communicate with the customer, he will buy another thing. Communication is the most important form of marketing.

"Europeans do not travel to Japan, and do not know the market. There will be a market there if they look for it, and a large one."

Mr Morita confessed that, in some ways, his company has been a victim of its own success. "Competition between Japanese companies has been intense for three decades. Always when we introduce a new product there is immediately an imitation."

A much-quoted Saying of Chairman Morita is that the typical Japanese company president is old, deaf, and silent. Mr Morita himself, at 61, is patently none of those, and in his early days his aggressive style led Sony into that Japanese rarity, an all-out strike.

"All the members of a company must always work together to make their company competitive. In a Japanese company, everybody knows they are in the same boat. It is not old Japanese tradition; it is a basic principle of the economic system, and a very simple principle. I am wondering why you in Britain have forgotten it."

He despairs of much of British industry, although not of Sony's colour television factory at Bridgend in South Wales. And he was sufficiently impressed by British education to send his two sons to English boarding schools. "I thought Japanese high school had lost discipline. But still your schools keep discipline." Well, some of them.

After years spent living in the United States, Mr Morita now lives a western-style existence at home in Japan. But he is no *arriviste* millionaire; he comes from a long *line of wealthy sake brewers* in the provincial town of Nagoya.

"I am reliably told," confided Mr Bayley later, "that he speaks with a thick Nagoya accent; it's the Japanese equivalent of broad Geordie." Mr Bayley had been banished from his own office while the chairman conferred with the managing director of his British operation; through the soundproof glass, it looked deeply serious.

Mr Morita re-emerged to have his picture taken beside one of his latest products, a television system that you buy in pieces, like a hi-fi set, another Morita marketing ploy that ensures separate profits on the television tube, the tuner, and the speakers.

"Now tell me," he said to *The Times* photographer with a wry smile, "Why do you use a Japanese camera?"

Alan Hamilton

Three ways to keep the Apaches from our schools

The independent schools have set up an action committee under the chairmanship of Frank Fisher, the former Master of Wellington, to organize their defence against political attack. It is the latest step in a process that began with the founding of the Headmasters' Conference in 1868.

Schools that have little in common other than their independence and that not so long ago were divided by the unattractive obsession with pecking order that characterized the private sector, are standing shoulder to shoulder like settlers who can ill afford nice distinctions of rank when the Apache appear on the skyline.

Labour — like the Apache — propose to reduce their victims by stages. When the removal of charitable status and the imposition of school fees has weakened the independent sector by putting some schools out of business and making the rest so exclusive that they can be finished off without public outcry, the charging of any fees for education will be proscribed.

The independent schools are right to take the threat seriously. In the past, the war cries of Mr Roy Hattersley caused a stir, but never looked like being translated into action; dancing round the totem pole of private education was just part of growing up in the Labour movement. But Labour's mood has changed. It is not simply a question of a swing to the Left. The independent schools, by their enthusiastic welcome to the Assisted Places Scheme, have identified themselves unequivocally with the Conservative Party so that even moderate Labour MPs now find it difficult to argue against abolition.

The Action Committee is concentrating on defence against the first stage of Labour's attack. It may succeed in building what it believes to be a secure legal stockade, but it is unrealistic to think that Labour on the warpath will be so easily deterred. The only sure defence is a public opinion that is sufficiently aroused to see an attack on private education as an attack on its own liberty.

That is not the case at the moment, despite opinion polls showing a majority against abolition. It is one thing to say you are against settlers being wiped out by the Apache and quite another to be willing to go to their aid. The challenge facing the Action Committee is how to transform passive into active support.

There are three ways in which this might be achieved. The first is to make common cause with other groups, such as private medicine, who are likely to be next on Labour's list. The committee has already made overtures in that direction.

The second is to prove and go on proving that the independent sector contains schools whose excellence, particularly in the academic field, the country just cannot do without. That argument will not impress the Labour Party who persist in the belief that the maintained schools could achieve the same standards if only the independent schools were dead and gone. Like a quack doctor who has no genuine cures for societies ills, Labour proposes to kill off the healthy in order to encourage the sick.

The third and most important way to win active support is the one to which the independent sector has given least consideration. The principal factor that inhibits popular sympathy is the suspicion that the independent schools are only concerned to protect their own position and have no interest in the education of the nation's children as a whole. The schools can hardly expect their fellow citizens to join them on the barricades if the only aim is to keep the private sector in the style to which it is accustomed. Public opinion will demand a more unselfish and constructive view of the future role of these schools.

The problem for the independent sector is that the new unity is based on defence; no one is prepared to look beyond the next battle. But unless the schools are seen to be seeking ways of serving a wider national interest they may lose the next battle for lack of public support.

The national interest in this context is not difficult to define. The reorganization of secondary education, whatever benefits it may have conferred on the majority of children, has in some areas left the more able children without the attention, stimulus and competition they need to fulfil their potential. The plight of the more able — and that does not mean gifted children but those capable of studying for A levels — is particularly acute in those inner city comprehensives where viable groups in A level subjects do not exist.

The heads of independent schools have done a disservice to these pupils by aligning themselves with the heads of maintained schools in opposition to the publication of examination results, because publication would reveal the extent to which key A level courses are just not available. Though ILEA declines to publish the figures, it is said that between a quarter and a third of its comprehensive sixth forms cannot offer A level courses in maths, physics and chemistry. A similar situation is believed to exist in other cities such as Manchester.

Against this background it is not difficult to see a way in which independent schools can serve the national interest. Within easy reach of these comprehensives are a number of good independent schools whose sixth forms offer viable A level groups not only in the more popular subjects but also in minority pursuits such as Russian and Greek.

It would be comparatively easy to open up these sixth forms to the A level pupils of the comprehensive schools. No one could accuse the independent schools of "creaming off" the bright pupils because the *only* pupils to move would be those who could not study the A level subjects of their choice. In this respect the scheme would differ from the ill-conceived Assisted Places Scheme which does not ensure that the pupils who move to independent schools at public expense really need to do so.

If the independent schools concentrate on the urgent and specific need for A level courses, they could — individually or collectively — raise the money to meet that need by public appeal to industry, trusts and foundations. They would also do much to dispel the cynicism about their motives that the Assisted Places Scheme has provoked. Most important of all they would win more active support from a public that has no particular reason to love them but that might be persuaded to defend institutions that serve a national and not just a sectional interest.

John Rae

The author is Head Master of Westminster School.

Whitehall mandarin joins KitKat club

Sir Patrick Nairne, master of St Catherine's College, Oxford, and until last year permanent secretary at the Department of Health and Social Security, is to be a trustee of the Joseph Rowntree Memorial Trust.

The trust is concerned with research and development in social policy. It spends £1½m a year, but also administers the family fund, set up by Sir Keith Joseph in 1973, for those with severely handicapped children. In that way the trust which Nairne is joining spends about £4½m on behalf of his former department.

Nairne succeeds Christopher Rowntree, who is retiring at the age of 75 after 30 years as a trustee. Christopher Rowntree was the last trustee to have known Joseph Rowntree personally. The Quaker reformer and founder of Rowntree Mackintosh, which makes KitKat, was his great-uncle.

Vacancies among the trustees are filled alternately by the Society of Friends and by the trustees themselves. Nairne was elected by his fellow trustees.

Hardy perennial

There will be a supremely distinguished cast at the Garrick Club on Sunday, at a party to honour Gwen Ffrangcon-Davies. The company includes Sir John Gielgud (she was Juliet to his first Romeo), Lord Olivier, Paul Scofield, Alec McCowen, Dame Wendy Hiller, and Robert Harris, to whose Oberon she played Titania in 1924.

Ffrangcon-Davies, though lower estimates sometimes appear, is in fact 91. Yet only a few weeks ago she was on television as an Irish nun required to deliver lines while lifting the dying Aubrey Beardsley off the floor. Despite an enormous headdress she managed it, of course, unruffled.

Ffrangcon-Davies first appeared on the London stage in 1911. She was the first Tess of the D'Urbervilles, and played the role before Thomas Hardy himself in his Dorset sitting-room because he was not well enough to travel to London to see the stage adaptation in the theatre.

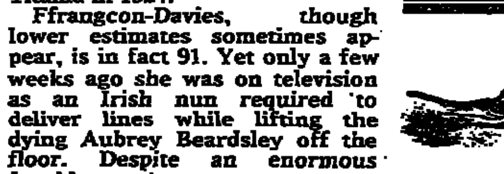
Regatta revival

On July 3 Willie Whitelaw is to open the first Windermere Lake Festival since 1929, a revival of a local tradition dating back to the 1790s. Historically Windermere's regattas were grand events. In 1825, they had Sir Walter Scott and George Canning, the Foreign Secretary, with Wordsworth and Southey aboard one barge in the regatta procession.

Swimming exhibitions in fancy dress and aquatic horse races were favourites in Victorian festivals, as was the pursuit of a human "duck" in skiffs. Some of the odd events which are now being revived were on dry land, including a geriatric sports day in which the elderly ran races for prizes such as a pair of spectacles or a packet of tea.

The old folks' sports will also include a gurneying contest, supposedly tailor-made for the toothless, since it means pulling funny faces. Other fixtures include windsurfing, parakyting, the re-enactment of maritime punishments, a fish-filleting contest and one man's attempt to eat a whole shark. The celebrations will last a fortnight.

THE TIMES DIARY



It may not be the best advertisement, but pied wagtails prefer lager. At least 2,000 of them roost among the empty crates and kegs in the yard of Carlsberg's Northampton brewery, which has become one of the country's biggest ringing centres for the birds.

Carlsberg, conscious of its Danish origins, claims that modern ringing was started by H. C. Mortensen in Denmark in 1899, and tells me there are 1,000 qualified ringers in Britain using 20 sizes of rings. I take no more responsibility for these facts than I do for their assertion that they they can call the wagtail Carlsberg Special Brood.

Voice of America

From Monday, fans will be able to buy a long-playing record of the well-known sports commentator and radio actor, Ronald Reagan. The President is heard retailing improbable sporting yarns, including one about a dead jockey who came back to win a horse race, from his appearances on the Colgate Sports Newsreel in the late 1940s. He is also heard broadcasting from a hospital bed with a broken leg.

The coupling is Reagan's first dramatic radio broadcast, in the little-remembered Warner Academy Theatre series of 1938. The plot of *One Way Passage*, as the sleeve note admits, is "a bit heavy on the melodrama", but it had made a first-rate film in 1932. That starred William Powell.

Flight plans

On May 15 bitterns, marsh harriers, golden plovers, turtle doves and nightingales in East Anglia all become fair game. Teams from *Country Life* and the Fauna and Flora Preservation Society will be competing, with the aid of Porsche and Aston Martin cars, for a new British bird-watching record. The object is to spot more than 147 species in 24 hours.

Since the bird-watchers will themselves be watched throughout the day by several television crews as they career from the coastal marshes to Thetford forest, and Abberton reservoir, it would not be too surprising if the birds all took cover.

Bill Oddie, of The Goodies, is one of the FFPS team. A keen bird-watcher, and suitably manic personality for this enterprise, he has written learned articles on bird identification and in *Bill Oddie's Little Black Bird Book* made a serious attempt to explain what makes bird watchers do it.

Purple patch

A *ghost from Indira Gandhi's* past has been haunting official receptions heralding the start of the Festival of India. The appearance of the supposedly disgraced Vidya Charan Shukla, her controversial former information minister, the man who imposed censorship in India during the emergency, has surprised many members of the British Indian community. Shukla, who as president of the All Indian Badminton Association says he is only here for the All England Badminton Championships, has raised eyebrows even higher by sporting mauve tints in his hair.

Papal dispensation

The Pope will be excused the oath of allegiance to the Queen when he accepts the freedom of the city of Cardiff during his visit to the Welsh capital in June. As leader of the world's Roman Catholics the Pope could not promise his obedience to the Head of the Church of England. And as a head of state he could not swear his fidelity to the head of another. So the oath will be omitted when the Pope becomes the fifty-fourth person to receive the honour.

The compromise was agreed after formal discussions between council executives and the Most Reverend John Murphy, Archbishop of Cardiff. City councillors agreed that the Pope could not take a solemn oath on what is just a ceremonial occasion. Since the Reform Act of 1832 the granting of the freedom of the city has meant little in terms of privileges.

The demarcation dispute which has stopped Play School's *clock is not without precedent in children's television. Some years ago* Blue Peter *was showing its viewers a large litter of pups, several of which answered calls of nature in the studio. In the row that followed as to who was to clean up, the special effects department lost, on the grounds that the subject matter of the debate was still steaming.*

A splash of paint

By writing about Tom Bramford, PHS does not mean to imply that tomorrow's Boat Race is likely to bring him much extra work. Bramford, now 80, has been handpainting commemorative oars for Cambridge's victorious rowers since 1923.

Bramford became a sign-painter after attending Birmingham School of Art. "My headmaster said I was not too bright but if I kept to handwriting and heraldry I would get a living", he says. In fact he paints hundreds of oars a year, not only for Cambridge university and college crews but for national and Olympic rowing squads as well. He was also responsible for the redecoration of Trinity College dining hall.

Off the track

The well-travelled naturalist and intrepid explorer of inaccessible parts of the world, David Attenborough, got hopelessly lost this week trying to get into the reception to launch the *Science In India* exhibition at the Science Museum.

After emerging from South Kensington tube station into Exhibition Road he was heard to complain: "I can't find my way through the police". Eventually he and a colleague managed to negotiate their way to the reception on the mezzanine floor through the museums's kitchens. Subsequently he had difficulty trying to find his way from the reception to the exhibition on the first floor. The lift kept eluding him.

Quiz

Questions from this week's news:

1. While the rich got richer, who got poorer?
2. Who went backwards over thin ice to make progress?
3. Who had a dagger plucked out of his back?
4. Who started a forest fire after being banned from a railway buffet car?

Answers on Monday.

PHS



P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

THE BEAM IN THE TUC EYE

September is already drawing uncomfortably close, for the general council of the TUC. At its meeting this week, it managed to get away without making any hard decisions about the plan wished on it by last year's congress to change the structure of the council itself. It is an issue apt to ruffle the sensibilities of union leaders, and many would be glad to shelve it just when the movement wishes to give the utmost impression of unity for its campaign against the Employment Bill. But congress asked for a detailed scheme of reform to be put before it this year, and if that is to be done, with time for unions to study the plan beforehand, the general council must make up its mind in the next few weeks.

The present system is venerable and picturesque, and when set up some 60 years ago it had reasonable claims to be fair. To ensure that all parts of the movement are represented, it divides member unions into 18 trade groups intended to represent similar kinds of work, and assigns to each group one or more seats on the general council, depending on its size. The unions in each group nominate their own candidates, but the delegates of the whole movement choose them by ballot at congress. Democracy in tiers is never a straightforward matter, but in practice the system has proved inflexible and unduly subject to power-broking.

The trade groups are adapted to changing labour patterns only slowly. The shipbuilders' union now has only 124,000 members, but it still enjoys a seat, while the transport workers' union, with almost two million members, has only five places. Historical accidents have put unions with similar interests into different groups, and sharply divided ones into partnership. The final ballot at congress gives great power to unions wielding large block votes. Vote-bartering is traditional, and the TGWU in particular has accumulated a string of client members on the general council by supporting small unions with congenial policies for seats in groups where they are not numerically dominant.

In general, the system under-represents fast-growing white-collar unions and over-represents shrinking craft unions. It is not systematically biased to left or right, but tends to perpetuate the influence of unions like Aslef, whose industrial bargaining power gives them assurance in protecting their own interests, or those of the movement. The plan endorsed by congress last year would abolish the archaic trade groups and guarantee a certain number of seats to unions of a given size.

The TGWU and the smaller unions which would lose influence by the change will not let it happen without a fight. Lobbying is already intense, and private hints have been dropped that reform might be followed by the creation of an informal grouping in the movement to be a counterweight to a less militant general council. The impulse to push the matter under the carpet this year is strong. Representative arrangements in the Labour movement are so ramshackle that it may seem futile to start at the top, only to enable the general council to reflect more accurately policies approved on the basis of half-empty meetings and ten per cent votes. But the movement cannot plausibly claim that Mr Tebbit's proposals to encourage greater accountability on matters like the closed shop are insultingly unnecessary, while simultaneously smothering the democratic aspirations of its own congress.

MONEY IS NOT THE ONLY MATTER

It is very good news that budgetary disputes will not be allowed to distract Monday's European summit meeting from the wider and more important problems which the Community ought to be addressing. All too often in the past these meetings have been dominated by British demands for more money. For Britain, this has been an unfortunate necessity, because it is only by kicking up a real fuss that this country has been able to achieve recognition from its partners of the basic justice of its case. But it has been damaging for the Community, not least because the public airing of differences has helped to alienate opinion in Britain and West Germany, the two countries which are net contributors to the budget. In this country, opposition to membership rose to an exceptionally high level two years ago, when the budget issue was particularly heated. The figures in the latest MORI poll, showing a majority of three to two against membership, are less high, but could be related to the return of the issue.

Although Mrs Thatcher may want to make a reference to the budget at the Brussels summit, most of the time will be spent on other things. There is, after all, plenty to discuss, with the western economic summit (including the United States and Japan) due to be held at Versailles early in June, and the Nato summit in Bonn soon after. In both areas, it is important that the Community members should have a concerted policy. At Versailles they will want to discuss the effects of high interest rates on the European economies with President Reagan; and to take up the question of Japanese resistance to imports, already being raised in Gatt, with Mr Suzuki. In the area of general foreign policy, they need to unify their approaches to such questions as east-west relations, the Middle East and Central America. They should also take up the now growing debate on the need for Europe to contribute more to its own defence.

Simply to list these topics is to demonstrate the scope of Community involvement, and of its potential influence. It is true that the Ten are still far from having a common foreign policy. There are differences of nuance, or more, on all the major world issues. But over the years they have come closer together, and to the outside world they appear a much more impressive entity than they tend to do from inside. That applies particularly to economic and trade questions, and increasingly to matters of general foreign policy.

In the twenty-five years since the Treaty of Rome was signed the Community has not fulfilled all the hopes of its founders. The confidence that was shown as recently as 1972 when, on the eve of British entry, the Nine undertook to move to a European union by 1980, has faded. But the European idea is not dead. What is needed is a greater recognition that the European countries do better if they pool their efforts than they would separately, especially in defence and security. Europe is still unwilling to shoulder the responsibilities in this field appropriate to its wealth, experience and political self-confidence.

All this will still leave some hard negotiating to be done on the budget when the Foreign Ministers meet on April 3, after the summit. For one thing, the crucial question of the actual amounts to be repaid to Britain has not yet been broached. There is every reason to be afraid that Britain's budget difficulties will continue, given the Community's propensity to maintain high levels of spending on agriculture; so it has to be ensured that there is no cut-off of arrangements for compensation.

HIS MASTER'S VOICE

Most confidential public documents that are preserved become open to inspection after thirty years. That is the general rule, but it cannot be an absolute rule. Even after such a period of time there are some records which ought not to be disclosed for reasons of national security. There are others which should still be kept secret because otherwise distress or danger could be caused to individuals. There is also a third category where the papers contain material that was supplied in confidence and which could not be made public without a breach of confidence.

An element of discretion has to be exercised therefore in applying the rule. This is the responsibility of the Lord Chancellor, and at the moment he is advised in this task simply by the officials of the department which wants to retain the documents in question for a longer period. Almost exactly a year ago, however, a committee under the chairmanship of Sir Duncan Wilson recommended that he should also be advised by a sub-committee of Privy Councillors drawn from the Advisory Council on Public Records. This would be a means of ensuring that decisions were not determined solely on the advice of departmental officials concerned to save themselves from embarrassment.

But this proposal has not found favour with the Government. The Lord Chancellor's Department concludes, in an official document published yesterday, that "the most suitable arrangement for supplying the Lord Chancellor with independent advice would be for the Secretary of the Cabinet to assume this role". The use of the phrase "independent advice" in this context may be judged to be either nicely ironic or patently absurd. The Secretary of the Cabinet is indeed independent of any particular department, but it is impossible for any department to be embarrassed without a twinge of anxiety for the Government as a whole — which is very much the concern of the Cabinet Secretary. He is also a very busy man with a lot of other things on his mind.

The reason offered for giving him this responsibility is that judgments of when disclosure might be damaging to the national interest require "an intimate knowledge of current policies and developments", which members of the Advisory Council could not be expected to have. But the Privy Councillors could always take account of the advice of the departmental officials, which would in any case still be available to the Lord Chancellor. But there can be no assurance that civil servants are not simply being timid or self-serving unless he receives some genuinely independent advice.

Madagascar disaster

From Lord Merrivale of Walkhampton and the Most Reverend Trevor Huddleston

Sir, Since January, 1982, the great island of Madagascar has been exposed to the fury of cyclones Benedicte, Electra, Frieda and Gabrielle, driving rural populations to the towns.

By mid-February the rain had been falling in torrents for over a month, in particular over Antananarivo, the capital, and its surrounding district.

In the most productive rural districts, namely along the east coast, around the capital and around the largest lake of Madagascar, Alaotra, to the north-north east the rice crop has been almost wiped out and the cassava plantations are in a similar state. The coffee, vanilla and cloves crops have also been very severely hit.

Dykes have been breached, railways cut, bridges and roads severely damaged by the floods; 65,000 people are already known to be homeless while there are others in the "enclaved" rural districts.

This disaster has attacked a country which was already in the throes of an economic crisis only too familiar to the Third World. We believe that the British people would welcome an opportunity to help the Malagasy victims; and we have set up a Madagadscar Disaster Fund, to which remittances can be sent at 15 Tufton Street, London, SW1. The money will be used in consultation with the Malagasy authorities for the purchase of the most urgent needs, namely: medical supplies, food, particularly for the children, tents, sleeping equipment and blankets.

Yours faithfully,
MERRIVALE,
Chairman, Anglo-Malagasy Society.
† TREVOR HUDDLESTON, C.R.,
Archbishop of the Indian Ocean,
House of Lords.

Nonconformist strength

From the Bishop of Hexham and Newcastle

Sir, Like any other bishop, I have a vested interest in Clifford Longley's claims (article, March 22) for the advantages of "prelacy". However, I cannot agree with his statement that "the combined strength of nonconformity in England is rather in excess of the Roman Catholic population."

According to *Prospects for the Eighties*, a census of the churches in England taken by the National Initiative in Evangelisation, matters are somewhat different. The 1979 totals for all England are 6,739,000 adult church members; 3,114,000 Protestant with 1,908,000 Episcopal, which means 1,206,000 "nonconformist" adult members. The Roman Catholic figure was 3,530,000.

Adult attendances were 3,850,000 total; 2,533,000 Protestant with 1,256,000 Episcopal, which means 1,277,000 adult "nonconformist" attendances. The Roman Catholic figure was 1,310,000.

Yours sincerely,
†HUGH LINDSAY,
Bishop's House,
East Denton Hall,
800 West Road,
Newcastle on Tyne.
March 22.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Function of police committees

From Mr James Lemkin

Sir, It is timely that questions are being asked about the role of police committees. It seems to be assumed by the Left that police accountability can only operate through reporting by the police to local committees which will control the policy, many senior appointments, and the day to day operations of the police in that area.

Such a programme appeared in the Labour Manifesto for the GLC Elections 1981, and there are signs that certain police committees out of London with powers under the Police Act 1964 are working towards these policies. There is also a move amongst the socialist majority on the Association of Metropolitan Authorities to achieve greater local political control over the police.

Many of these steps are not within the framework of the Police Act 1964, nor can they go to the root of good policing which is the establishment of a partnership between the public and the police to work for crime prevention. The time has come for the Home Office to reaffirm that throughout England and Wales the Home Secretary is the ultimate political power in respect of the police, that day to day operational matters are for the Chief Constable of the area and that the police committees have no executive role in this respect or in most appointments.

In London where the GLC Police Committee has no power over the police, further steps are being taken to set up a movement of protest about the police, financed by the GLC. This will lead inevitably to local politicians attempting to interfere with procedures for dealing with complaints about the police, and is certainly aimed at countering the important work set in train in good faith by the Home Secretary to establish voluntary Police liaison committees in the stress areas of London.

Yours faithfully,
JAMES LEMKIN,
Member of Greater London Council,
Conservative Spokesman on the Police,
The County Hall, SE1.

From Mr Raymond Blackburn

Sir, Police accountability relates only to matters of administration.

What matters is law enforcement. Here the police are accountable "to the law and to the law alone". The quotation is from Lord Denning M.R. in *R v Commissioner of Police of the Metropolis ex parte Blackburn (1968) 2 Q.B. 118.* The other judges agreed. Lord Edmund Davies said that the police owe a duty to the public to enforce the law but it "is not a duty which any police authority can tell him to do". This is what police officers are quite rightly taught at police college.

This was the only case in which the judges have used their influence to induce the police to change their minds, and from later experience I regard it as unlikely that they will do so again.

I agree that there should be no political accountability. This makes Mr Anderton's suggestion of an independent body the more interesting, but if it were to carry public confidence it would have to be able to pursue investigations with the aid of personnel recruited from outside any police force. Today even the Director of Public Prosecutions in unable to do that even in cases against the police.

Yours faithfully,
RAYMOND BLACKBURN,
50 Homefield Road,
Chiswick, W4.

Ulster Assembly plan

From Sir Philip Goodhart, MP for Bromley Beckenham (Conservative)

Sir, As you rightly say in your leading article (March 22), on Mr Prior's proposed initiative for Northern Ireland: "Of course, an assembly whose members have nothing much to do except berate the administration and insult each other (which must be accounted the most likely outcome) would tend to political mischief."

This in itself is sufficient reason for moving cautiously, but Mr Prior's proposed initiative poses other practical problems which you do not describe so clearly. The Assembly will, it seems, have specialist committees which will be able to question the relevant Ministers and civil servants. These committees are likely to strike a more personal and partisan note than we have become accustomed to at Westminster, and their impact on the administrative machine in Northern Ireland could be important and malign.

It will also not be easy to transfer executive powers to the Assembly piecemeal. When I was reponsible for the Department of the Environment in Northern Ireland, we spent some time discussing ways in which we could give district councils more power over such matters as planning decisions and local road improvement schemes. The step-by-step approach that we envisaged presented few administrative problems. It will not be so easy to transfer part responsibility for planning or part responsibility for roads to a devolved Assembly.

But apart from the political and administrative problems there is an important constitutional issue involved. Parliament should not thrust a particular scheme of devolution upon a Province that does not want it.

In the last Parliament, Conservative voters and Conservative argument forced the Labour Government to hold referendums in Scotland and Wales on their devolution schemes. These expensive and divisive plans were dropped when it was shown that the voters would not support them in sufficient numbers. It would be astonishing if a Conservative Government were now to force a scheme for devolved government on another part of the United Kingdom without seeking the consent of the voters concerned.

It would normally be best to hold a referendum after a devolution Bill had passed through Parliament; for the debates on the Bill itself could play an important role in informing the public of the merits or demerits of the proposed scheme. As you have noted, however, almost all the Members of Parliament from Northern Ireland seem to be opposed to major aspects of the proposed scheme. In order to avoid wasting Parliamentary time, it might therefore be sensible to hold a referendum after the publication of a White Paper and before a detailed discussion of the legislation.

Yours faithfully.
PHILIP GOODHART,
House of Commons.
March 24.

Polaris and Trident

From Mr Frank Blackaby

Sir, At present, in its Polaris-launched system, Britain has 64 launchers, each with three warheads — 192 nuclear warheads targeted on the Soviet Union. Each warhead is probably of the order of 200 kilotons, some 16 times the size of the Hiroshima bomb. So the total force represents some 3,000 Hiroshima-equivalents.

Under the proposed Trident system, even if the number of launchers on each of the four submarines is limited to 12, and the number of warheads on each launcher is limited to eight, the total number of warheads will roughly double. Further, given the increased throw-weight of the Trident II, each of the warheads will probably be of the order of 300-350 kilotons. In megatonnage, it presents a trebling of destructive power, compared with the Polaris system. We move up to 10,000 Hiroshima-equivalents.

Meanwhile at Geneva the United States has been pressing the Soviet Union to accept the United States proposal by which the Soviet Union would dismantle all its land-based nuclear missiles targeted on Western Europe.

There is a certain asymmetry here. Insofar as it is sensible to have separate negotiations about long-range theatre nuclear forces in Europe, it is surely rational for those negotiations to take into account Western European missiles targeted on the Soviet Union as well as Soviet missiles targeted on Western Europe.

Let us suppose for a moment that the United States were in the same position as the Soviet Union: that is, let us suppose that in addition to the Soviet missiles directed against its territory, there were also Brazilian and Argentinian nuclear missiles aimed at North American cities. Would we consider it strange if the United States demanded some kind of parity with these missiles also, as well as with the Soviet ones?

Yours faithfully,
FRANK BLACKABY, Director,
Stockholm International Peace Research Institute,
Bergshamra,
S-17 73 Solna,
Sweden.
March 16.

Cricket and South Africa

From the Secretary of the South African Cricket Union

Sir, The Hon the Member for Isle of Ely (Clement Freud) in a letter to you (March 11) chose some pretty damaging epithets in his assessment of those English and England cricketers now playing a brief series of matches with South African XIs. How would he judge the 50 (yes, 50) English professional cricketers all presently or until recently registered as county players with the Test and County Cricket Board who since October have been here coaching and playing with our clubs and provinces?

These 50 cricket coaches spend much of their coaching hours with the non-white players and particular with the schoolboys. Their predecessors over what is now a full 100 years have been a major factor in maintaining the standards of our cricket and in taking the game into new areas. Are these men the same sort of blackguards Clement Freud would have Graham Gooch and his team so regarded?

If Clement Freud rates Englishmen who play cricket against South Africa as unpatriotic (I thought that word had become archaic among your British Liberals) then just how low among his countrymen will he place those who come to keep South African cricket alive and virile?

Yours faithfully,
CHARLES FORTUNE,
South African Cricket Union,
PO Box 55009,
Worthlands, 2116, Johannesburg.

A fare wage

Professor J. F. Richardson

Sir, When London Transport fares were reduced, the staff had a special increase in wages because their free fare privilege was worth less as a result. Now that the fares have been increased, may we presume that there will be an appropriate reduction in wages?

Yours faithfully,
J. F. RICHARDSON,
Department of Chemical Engineering,
University College of Swansea,
Singleton Park, Swansea.

Teachers and the pastoral role

From the General Secretary of the Professional Association of Teachers

Sir, Was it editorial policy or divine intervention that placed your leading article on Dr Runcie's view of religious education beside Dr Harris' letter on the teacher's role (March 20)?

The notion that teachers should have done with the pastoral role and concentrate on purveying knowledge may be appealing to some at a time when parents are inclined to abdicate their responsibilities, but it overlooks what is the true nature of teaching. The mistake is easily made when advice from many quarters might lead one to suppose that what matters is what is taught (the curriculum), how it is taught (streaming or mixing ability), how success is measured (the examination system), the amount of books and equipment available (resources), the size of the teaching force (staffing), and so on. But the truth lies elsewhere.

What is it that remains with young people when they leave school? What residue is traceable within our spirits after all those years of having information directed at us? When we look back, we remember not facts but people. What a teacher offers is himself. It is the quality of the individual who stands in front of the class that determines the quality of education. We teach what we are. Caring teachers create caring pupils, and the rest matters hardly at all. The day the profession abdicates what Dr Harris and his fellow signatories call the pastoral rigmarole, it turns its back on its principal responsibility.

A return to a Christian emphasis in religious education would help to reestablish a sense of personal responsibility for one another among teachers and taught. What the offering of various religions and none as equal alternatives has brought us to is the belief that everyone may choose what gratifies him most. Thereby have we produced a nation committed to a devastating mix of materialism and relativism.

If the long-withdrawn tide of Christian faith is on the turn, the teaching profession should be glad of it. Nothing would be more likely to encourage parents to resume their responsibilities, and join with it in offering enduring values to those who hold the future in their grasp.

Yours faithfully,
PETER DAWSON,
Professional Association of Teachers,
99 Friar Gate,
Derby.
March 22.

From Mr John I. Edmonds

Sir, Your vision of prelates standing their ground and giving voice to a more confident and aggressive Christianity makes for a striking Saturday leading article (Tide of the Faith, March 20) but a muddled one in the context of religious education.

With a number of other humanists I have recently been studying the Hampshire Agreed Syllabus, which is under consideration in Gloucestershire too. We recognized that the writers of the syllabus did indeed see serving community relations as part of its purpose.

To us, as presumably to them, this seemed a serious enough purpose for any course of education. Why characterize it as patronizing?

Similarly, you characterize a reasonable attempt to look objectively at religious and, in a very limited way, non-religious views of life, as "creedal smorgasbord"; and young people's need to understand Christianity's pervasive influence on their present and our past as presenting Christianity as a bit of our living heritage.

And yet you concede that it is not part of the task of religious education to win juvenile converts to Christianity. What, then, can its more serious purpose be? To me, the demands on teachers to achieve Hampshire's syllabus seem onerous enough. It is for others to see that young children lead a Christian life, if that is what they want. Religious education can only attempt to show why some people want this, and what results it might have.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN I. EDMONDS,
8 Albert Road,
Cheltenham.
March 22.

Education economies

From Mr David Aaronovitch

Sir, Professor Marris's way of saving money within higher education (feature, March 22) would be, I believe, worse than the Government's own plans.

In suggesting that more students should be admitted but all given smaller grants he is proposing to worsen the already lamentable social mix within universities by excluding those who cannot acquire extra funds.

He then turns to the idea of student loans, describing the American system as efficient. Having just returned from a speaking tour of North America campuses I can assure you it is anything but efficient. Bad debts are rising, basic grants are being cut and part-time jobs, which American students depend upon, are disappearing.

Professor Marris's and Sir Keith Joseph's problems both stem from their joint premise that higher education is indefensible and will inevitably be cut back.

I believe universities can be altered to perform vital national functions, thereby ensuring their continued health and prosperity. If universities were directed by a national body, determining agreed objectives, flexible admissions and positive initiatives to deal with social problems, then they could thrive in a new atmosphere of public support and confidence.

The Manpower Services Commission is not being curtailed; rather its determination to meet real needs has secured it a greatly expanded role in society with consequent funding. There is no reason why universities could not also offer courses and training to deal with the structural unemployment that looks set to remain with us for the future.

Both the Government and Professr Marris's plans lead to fewer students from poor backgrounds and greater isolation and elitism in higher education. Only a policy which breaks out of this and secures public support can in the long run save the higher education system from constant cutbacks.

Yours sincerely,
DAVID AARONOVITCH,
President,
National Union of Students.
3 Endsleigh Street, WC1.

From Professor Lord Beloff F.B.A.

Sir, Professor Robin Marris's open letter to Sir Keith Joseph is worth careful consideration. But there is another way of economically increasing the number of university students. That is for one or more universities to offer the four-term year and two-year degree course successfully pioneered by the University College at Buckingham, of which Sir Keith himself is a patron.

Yours truly,
BELOFF,
House of Lords.

Humber bridge

From Mr A. F. Clarke

Sir, We expect some lighthearted entertainment from your third leader (March 17), but is it not time for a newspaper with the international standing of *The Times* to refrain from such superficial comments as you have made regarding the Humber bridge? If, in the United Kingdom in a serious newspaper we can be so flippant about a marvel of British engineering, serving a long-felt need in Humberside and destined to play an increasing part in our national system of communications, is it surprising that foreign journalists, equally superficial, can receive good pay for writing scornfully about the intelligence of the British?

The truth is that the Humber bridge is playing an important part in the development of Humberside as the "land of opportunity" as it was described by Her Majesty in the opening ceremony. For the first two months of its use an average of 13,000 vehicles a day were passing over. The most encouraging feature is that there is steadily growing use by heavy commercial and industrial vehicles.

From an accountant's viewpoint the bridge is far from profitable. There may be some islands of profitability in the sphere of transportation, but they are hard to find. Fortunately, Governments of both main parties had sufficient vision to enable the Humber Bridge Board to construct the bridge. A growing number of our people, within and without Humberside, is grateful that the views implied by your leader did not prevail.

Yours faithfully,
F. CLARKE,
Chairman, Humber Bridge Board,
Guildhall,
Kingston Upon Hull,
North Humberside.
March 18.

Tide of faith

From Mr Nicolas Walter

Sir, Twice this year the Archbishop of Canterbury has defended and demanded more of the traditional hegemony of religion in our national life, first in supporting the present law of blasphemy and suggesting that it should be extended to cover not only Christianity but all religions, and then in supporting the present system of religious education and suggesting that Christianity should continue to be taught not only to Christian but also to non-Christian and even non-religious children.

The obvious response may be that he would, wouldn't he? But the serious response is that, if religion is so important and so influential, why can't it look after itself without having special protection in the courts and in the schools?

Far from being an expression of the voice of Christian confidence, as is claimed in your leading article (March 20), isn't it one more attempt to stop the tide of faith running out?

Yours faithfully,
NICOLAS WALTER,
Rationalist Press Association,
88 Islington High Street, N1.
March 18.

Different complexion

From Mr David Carr

Sir, We learned today from your newspaper that an unemployed labourer who "streaked" on to the rugby pitch at Cardiff was fined £50.

Miss Erika Rowe who performed a similar feat, though with notable differences, at Twickenham received offers of varying types of employment. Is this another example of naked chauvinism?

Yours sincerely,
DAVID CARR,
37 High Street,
Cleobury Mortimer,
Salop.
March 23.

COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
March 25: His Excellency Mr Rolf Trygve Busch was received in audience by The Queen and presented the Letters of Recall of his predecessor and his own Letters of Credence as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary from the Kingdom of Norway to the Court of St James's.

His Excellency was accompanied by the following Members of the Embassy, who had the honour of being presented to Her Majesty: Mr Anders Helseth (Counsellor), Mr Jens Breivik (Counsellor), Mr Sémund Remoy (Counsellor), Mr Haakon Storhaug (First Secretary), Mr Jostein Bernhardsen (First Secretary), Colonel Carl Langlie (Defence Attaché), Lieutenant-Colonel Tore Medhus (Assistant Defence Attaché) and Mr Jan Enger (Commercial Counsellor).

Mrs Busch had the honour of being received by The Queen.

Sir Michael Palliser (Permanent Under-Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs), who had the honour of being received by Her Majesty was present, and the Gentlemen of the Household in Waiting were in attendance.

Sir Michael Palliser had the honour of being received by The Queen upon his retirement as Permanent Under-Secretary of State at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and Head of the Diplomatic Service.

Mr E. A. J. Fergusson was received in audience by The Queen and kissed hands upon his appointment as Her Majesty's Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary at Cape Town.

Mrs Fergusson had the honour of being received by the Queen.

Sir Hugh Casson (President of the Royal Academy of Arts) had the honour of being received by Her Majesty and submitted the business of the Institution.

Mr Sydney Hutchison had the honour of being received by The Queen upon his retirement as Secretary of the Royal Academy of Arts.

The Queen visited the Home Office this afternoon to mark its Bicentenary and was received by the Secretary of State for the Home Department (the Right Hon William Whitelaw, MP) and the Permanent Secretary (Sir Brian Cubbon).

Her Majesty unveiled a commemorative plaque, toured the Bicentenary exhibition and met members of the Home Office staff.

The Duchess of Grafton, Sir William Heseltine and Squadron Leader Adam Wise were in attendance.

The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh gave a Reception this evening for winners of The Queen's Awards for Export and Technology in 1981 at which The Prince of Wales and The Duke of Kent were present.

The Duke of Edinburgh, Patron and Twelfth Man of the Lords Taverners, this morning at Buckingham Palace presented the Schweppes County Championship Trophy.

His Royal Highness, Chairman of the Royal Society of Arts Committee for the Environment, presided at a meeting of the Committee at Buckingham Palace.

The Duke of Edinburgh this afternoon unveiled the "Defenders' Memorial" at Westminster Abbey where His Royal Highness was received by the Dean (the Very Reverend Edward Carpenter).

Major John Cargin was in attendance.

His Royal Highness, Colonel-in-Chief of the Army Cadet Force, this evening dined with the Territorial Auxiliary and Volunteer Reserve Association for Greater London at the Duke of York's Headquarters, London, SW3.

The Duke of Edinburgh was received upon arrival by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Greater London (the Baroness Phillips), the Mayor of the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea (Councillor A. Stevenson) and the Chairman of the Association (Colonel G. S. P. Carden).

Major the Hon Andrew Wigram was in attendance.

The Prince of Wales, Duke of Cornwall, this morning attended a meeting of the Isles of Scilly Council at 10, Buckingham Gate.

CLARENCE HOUSE
March 25: Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother this afternoon visited King's College Hospital for a ceremony to mark the building of the Variety Club Children's Hospital.

The Hon Mrs John Mulholland and Sir Martin Gilliat were in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
March 25: The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon today visited Cardiff and in the morning opened the Extension to Velindre Hospital.

Her Royal Highness was later entertained at luncheon by the Chairman of South Glamorgan Area Health Authority.

The Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon, this afternoon visited the University Hospital of Wales and presented Prizes to Students at the Combined Training Unit.

Her Royal Highness, who travelled in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight, was attended by Mrs Alastair Aird and Major The Lord Napierand Ettrick.

KENSINGTON PALACE
March 25: Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester this afternoon visited Greater Manchester Police Training School, Sedgley Park, Bury, and later visited the East Lancashire Home for Disabled Ex-Servicemen, Broughton House, Salford.

Her Royal Highness travelled in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight.

Miss Jane Egerton-Warburton was in attendance.

The Duchess of Gloucester was present this evening at the Royal Charity Film Gala Evening of *Evil Under the Sun* in aid of The Mountbatten Memorial Trust Romsey Sea Venture, Southampton.

Her Royal Highness travelled in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight.

Mrs Michael Wigley was in attendance.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE
March 25: Princess Alexandra and the Hon Angus Ogilvy were present this evening at a Reception, given by the Hispanic and Luso Brazilian Council on the occasion of the forthcoming visit to Peru, at Canning House, Belgrave Square, SW1.

Miss Mona Mitchell was in attendance.



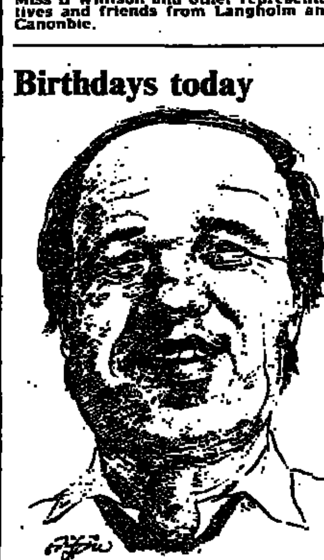
The Bishop Suffragan of Fulham, the Right Rev Brian Masters (centre) with the Archbishop of Canterbury (left) and the Bishop of London after his consecration at St Paul's Cathedral yesterday.

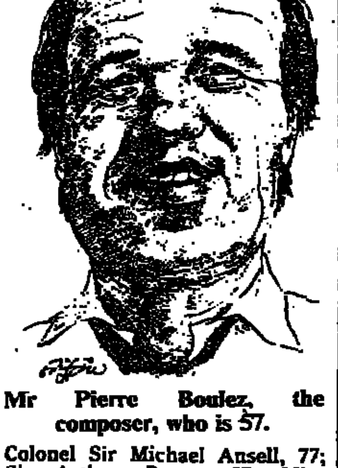
Funeral

Mr J. McNeill, Q.C.
The funeral of Mr John McNeill, Q.C. took place on Wednesday, March 17, at All Saints' Church, Langholm. The service was conducted by the Rev C. V. Kendall and the burial service at Warriston Cemetery by Canon O. L. S. Dover. The Lament was played by Pipe Major Roderick Short. Among those present were:

The Duke and Duchess of Buccleuch and Queensberry (son-in-law and daughter), the Earl of Dalkeith (grandson) and the Countess of Dalkeith, Lady William Montagu Douglas Scott, Mr Walter Montagu Douglas Scott, the Marquess and Marchioness of Lothian, Mrs Hugh Calcott, Mrs J C Barr, Mr John Blair, Dr A Brown, Mr and Mrs N J Dew, Mr and Mrs A C Findlay, the Hon James and Mrs Galbraith, Mr John Galbraith, Earl and Countess Haig, Mr K Hayfield, Mr J Henderson, Mrs P F Henry, Mr Gerard Henry, Mrs Hope-Vere, Mr Kerr Kennedy, Miss Lorna MacEchern, Captain J Milne-Home, Lady Moncreiff, Mr Patrick Murray, Colonel and Mrs J Robertson-Macleod, Brigadier and Mrs J W Tweedie, Colonel R T G Waters, Miss B Wilson and other representatives and friends from Langholm and Canonbie.

Birthdays today





Mr Pierre Boulez, the composer, who is 57.

Colonel Sir Michael Ansell, 77; Sir Arthur Bruce, 87; Miss Kyung-wha Chung, 34; Mr W. J. Edrich, 66; Lord Fletcher, 79; Judge Graham Hall, 65; Lord Hooson, 57; Miss Elizabeth Jane Howard, 59; Sir George Jefferson, 61; Sir Bernard Katz, 71; Vice-Admiral Sir Ian McGeoch, 68; Dr Kenneth Mellanby, 74; Sir Leslie Melville, 80; Mr Geoffrey Paul, 53; Sir Sidney Ridley, 80; Mr Tennessee Williams, 71.

Bodley's Librarian appointed

Mr John Jolliffe, sub-librarian and keeper of catalogues at the Bodleian Library, Oxford, has been appointed Bodley's Librarian. He has been acting librarian since Mr Richard Fifoot retired last July.

Mr Jolliffe, aged 52, a fellow of Nuffield College, joined the Bodleian from the British Museum in 1970.

United Wards' Club of the City of London

Mr Derek Kemp has been elected president of the United Wards' Club of the City of London and Mr R. W. Nichols and Mr R. S. Findlay have been elected vice-presidents.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr A. StJ. Brown and Miss M. K. Nowak
The engagement is announced between StJohn, son of Mr and Mrs D. W. Brown, of Maidstone, Kent, and Krystyna, daughter of Mr and Mrs S. K. Nowak, of Pinner, Middlesex.

Mr J. M. Cameron and Miss V. A. Porter
The engagement is announced between Jonathan, elder son of Mr and Mrs D. Cameron, of Bournemouth, Dorset, formerly of Pollokshields, Glasgow, and Vanessa, younger daughter of Captain D. J. N. Porter, RN, of Putney, London, and Mrs M. C. Denman, of Charlbury, Oxfordshire.

Mr N. Hill and Miss K. M. Kerr-Gilbert
The engagement is announced between Nicholas, son of Mr and Mrs J. A. C. Hill, of Tylney Lodge, Newnham, Hampshire, and Kathryn, daughter of Mr and Mrs R. Kerr-Gilbert, of Sunderland.

Mr A. S. Keiller and Miss A. V. Ogden
The engagement is announced between Angus, the younger son of Mr and Mrs P. L. L. Keiller, of Monkswood, Hepburn Gardens, St Andrews, Fife, and Victoria, youngest daughter of the late Lieutenant-Colonel Raymond Ogden, and of Mrs Patricia D. Ogden, of Fairthwaite Park, Cowan Bridge, Carnforth, Lancashire.

Mr K. Hiramoto and Miss M. E. Reeve Angel
The engagement is announced between Kazuo, youngest son of Mr and Mrs S. Hiramoto, of Tokyo, Japan, and Meriel Eve, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs R. Reeve Angel, of Brenchley, Kent.

Mr J. R. Newell and Miss K. M. Ballard
The engagement is announced between Jonathan Newell, of The Castle, Durham, and Kim Ballard, of Cobham Hall, Kent.

Mr A. T. C. Pemberton and Miss V. J. M. Ruttle
The engagement is announced between Anthony, son of Mr C. T. Pemberton, of Lower Creedy, Devon, and of Mrs N. Kindersley, of Derrygolgher Lodge, co. Longford, Republic of Ireland, and Victoria Jane, younger daughter of His Honour H. S. Ruttle and the late Mrs Ruttle, of West Lodge, Wimbledon, SW19.

Mr A. R. Powers and Miss S. M. Curtis
The engagement is announced between Alan, younger son of Mr and Mrs M. A. R. Powers, and Susanna, younger daughter of the late Rev John Curtis and Mrs Sheila Curtis, of London, NW3.

Marriage

Mr I. L. Foux and Miss L. Wolfe
The marriage took place on March 25, 1982, between Mr Ian Foux, son of Mr and Mrs Cyril Foux, of River Lodge, Denham Village, Buckinghamshire, and Miss Lesley Wolfe, daughter of Mr and Mrs Sydney Wolfe, of 72 The Quadrangle, Cambridge Square, London, W2.

Latest appointments

Lord Justice Slade has been made a member of the Privy Council on his appointment as a Lord Justice of Appeal.

Mr Justice Mervyn Davies has received a knighthood on his appointment as a Judge of the High Court of Justice.

Other appointments include:

Dr Charles Suckling, FRS, to be a member of the Royal Commission on Environmental Pollution in succession to the late Dr Alfred Spinks, FRS.

Sir Patrick Nairne to be a trustee of the Joseph Rowntree Memorial Trust.

Mr David Mellor to be chairman of the Crafts Council from October 1 this year until September 30 1985.

Captain Geoffrey Marsh to be promoted Rear-Admiral and to be Assistant Chief of Naval Staff (Operational Requirements) in September, in succession to Rear-Admiral P. M. Stanford.

Mr John Dent, managing director of Dunlop, to be chairman of the Civil Aviation Authority from June 1, in succession to Sir Nigel Foulkes.

Mr Colin Smith, Assistant Chief Constable of Thames Valley Police, to be Deputy Assistant Commissioner, Metropolitan Police.

Commander William Hucklesby to be head of Scotland Yard's anti-terrorist squad, in succession to Commander Michael Richards, who is to be a deputy assistant commissioner.

Harkness fellowships

The United Kingdom Selection Committee announces the following appointments to Harkness fellowships of the Commonwealth Fund:

F J Bailey (Lincoln Coll, Oxford) film studies; Della M Cannings (Devon and Cornwall Const) criminology; P J Coveney (Edinburgh Univ) theoretical physics; T W Friedman (Deloitte Haskins & Sells, London) business administration; Sarah Grindlay (sculptor) fine art; S Hadfield (Terry Farrell Partnership, London) architecture; Gwyneth Lewis (Girton Coll, Cambridge) English literature; R H Martin (sub-department of animal behaviour, Cambridge Univ) behavioural ecology; Paul Nicholson (harpsichordist) music; M E Nicoll (Aberdeen Univ) zoology; R W Nutton (Northern Regional Health Authority) surgery; Mary E Percival (London Univ) law; Katrina Porteous (Trinity Hall, Cambridge) creative writing; L Poston (Esso Petroleum Company Ltd) business administration; R Selly (Magdalen Coll, Oxford) American history; P Walker (City of London Poly) law; J R Wilkinson (Boston Consulting Group, Munich) business administration.

Latest wills

Latest estates include (net, before tax paid):

Aikman, Mr William Robert, of St Margarets Bay, Dover	£361,755
Banner, Samuel Victor, of Birkenhead, Merseyside	£403,579
Bradley, Air Marshal Sir John Stanley Travers, of Wimborne, Dorset	£60,039
Buckley, Mrs Edith May, of Beaconsfield, Buckinghamshire	£251,269
Crow, Mrs Annie White, of South Woodford	£273,238
Lunt, Barbara Madeline, of Broome, Clent, Hereford and Worcester	£808,057

Luncheons

HM Government
The Hon Douglas Hurd, Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, was host at a luncheon given at 1 Carlton Gardens yesterday in honour of the Ambassador of Sudan.

HM Government
Mr Richard Luce, Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, was host at a luncheon given at Lancaster House yesterday in honour of members of the Algerian Inter-Parliamentary Union.

Ministry of Defence
General Sir Edwin Bramall, Chief of the General Staff, entertained members of the FINABEL Committee at luncheon yesterday at the Royal Hospital, Chelsea. Those present included:

General Delaunay, Lieutenant-General Capozzo, de Wilde and Glanz, Major-General Schaberg and Lieutenant-Colonel Willers.

Receptions

Canning House
Princess Alexandra and the Hon Angus Ogilvy attended a reception given last night at 2 Belgrave Square by Viscount Caldecote, President of the Hispanic and Luso Brazilian Council, and Viscountess Caldecote. The guests included the Peruvian Chargé d'Affaires and Sra. de Lecaros, members of the Peruvian Embassy, Viscount and Viscountess Montgomery of Alamein, Sir David and the Hon Lady Muirhead, Lady Bowes, and members of the executive committee and the Latin American trade advisory group and their ladies.

Lady Mayoress of Westminster
The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of Westminster were hosts yesterday evening at a reception given at City Hall for representatives of amenity societies, housing organizations, tenants and residents associations and churches and schools in Westminster.

British Property Federation
Mr Christopher Benson, President of the British Property Federation, was host at a reception held yesterday at 35 Catherine Place, SW1. Among the guests were members of the Government, Members of Parliament and representatives from a wide range of companies and organizations involved in property.

Dinners

Territorial Auxiliary and Volunteer Reserve Association for Greater London
The Duke of Edinburgh, Colonel-in-Chief of the Army Cadet Force, attended a dinner given by the TA&VR Association for Greater London at the Duke of York's Headquarters, Chelsea, last night. Among those present were: Baroness Phillips, the Mayor of Kensington and Chelsea, Colonel the Earl of Avon, General Sir Anthony Read, Major-Generals R D A Langley and R S M Hann, Colonels P F Hurst and G P S CARDEN, and members of the Greater London TAVR association and officers of the Greater London Army Cadet Force.

Justices' Clerks' Society
The President of the Justices' Clerks' Society, Mr B. T. Harris, and members of the council gave a dinner at Gray's Inn last night. In addition to past presidents and honorary members, the guests included:

$44,5,10.9 Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone, CH, Lord Elwyn-Jones, CH, Lord Lane, Lord Denning, Sir Geoffrey Howe, QC, MP, Sir John Arnold, Sir Thomas Skyrme, Sir Thomas Hetherington, QC, Sir Wilfrid Bourne, Sir Bryan Roberts, QC, Lady Ralphs, Dr Denis Gray, Mr Barry Rose, Mrs E E Parkes, Mr Andrew Leggatt, QC, and Mr D A Marshall.

Reform Club
The Speaker of the House of Commons, Mr George Thomas, was the guest of honour at a dinner held at the Reform Club on Wednesday to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the passing of the Great Reform Act. Mr Peter D. Brown was in the chair.

Council of Engineering Institutions
The 26th Graham Clark Lecture was given last night by Sir James Hamilton, Permanent Under Secretary of State, Department of Education and Science, on "Education, Industry and Society". Later he was a guest at a dinner given by the officers of the CEI at the Institution of Civil Engineers.

Leathersellers' Company
The Lord Mayor, accompanied by Mr Sheriff Eskenzi, was entertained at dinner by the Master, wardens and court of assistants of the Leathersellers' Company at Leathersellers' Hall on March 24.

Scientific Instrument Makers Company
The Scientific Instrument Makers Company held their Spring dinner at Scientific Instrument Makers' Hall last night. The guests were received by the Master, Mr S. S. Carlisle, and the Senior Warden, Mr C. R. Jennings. The principal guest and speaker was Professor J. E. Salmon, of the Council for National Academic Awards, and other guests included the Masters of the Glaziers' and the Tobacco Pipe Makers' Companies, the Principal of St Edmund Hall, Oxford and the Director of the Scientific Instrument Research Association.

Service dinners

RECorps
The Corps of Royal Engineers held a guest night in the RE Headquarter Mess, Brompton, yesterday. The Chief Royal Engineer, Lieutenant-General Sir David Willison, presided and the principal guests included: Brigadier-General R. Hamilton of Hamilton of Dalzell, Air Marshal Sir John Thomson, Air Chief Marshal Sir David Evans, Lieutenant-General R B Trant, Air Vice-Marshal D C Thorne, Air Commodore R J Jackson, Major-General R Webster, Mr O Davies, Mr E C Lincoln, Colonel B A E Maude, Brigadier General J G Crillot and Colonel G Dyevre.

RCT
Officers of the Royal Corps of Transport held a dinner last night at the Royal Corps of Transport Headquarters Mess, Aldershot. The Director General of Transport and Movements, Major-General W M Allen, presided and the principal guests were:

Lieutenant-General Sir Paul Travers, Major-Generals J J Moore and B M Lane, Brigadiers B C Gordon-Lennox and G W Smith, Mr John G Hogg, Mr B H Hayward, Major (Rtd) R F Morris.

Moreover . . . Miles Kington

Although the result of the Glasgow, Hillhead, by-election has not yet come in as I write these words — indeed, people have hardly started to vote — I think it is not too early to try to measure the impact of this extraordinary event.

Let us establish one thing straight from the start. Mr Jenkins's convincing victory/narrow defeat/humiliating trouncing has, if it has done nothing else, altered the face of British politics for all time/left things exactly as they were before/spelled out the death of the Social Democrats. Mr Jenkins is nothing if not a man of courage, and although there is a tendency in the Home Counties to see Glasgow as being 4,000 miles further away than it really is, it takes considerable personal bravery to volunteer to represent voters in another country, another class system and (sometimes, it seems) another language; as we now know this morning, Mr Jenkins's act was one of great perspicacity/more courage than sense/suicidal lunacy.

Of course, by-elections are often seen as totally media-created events/merely a chance for the public to express its dissatisfaction with the Government/a shining example of democracy in action, and so it has proved/this time. The thoughtful electors in this not untypical constituency on the banks of the River Clyde/Dee/Tay have looked the issues fairly and squarely in the face and decided to vote according to their merits/write themselves into a footnote in history/spend all day in the pub as usual. It will be hard after this result ever to see the Labour Party as a credible opposition again/understand why we took the alliance seriously/doubt that Mrs Margaret Thatcher can fail to win the next election.

But one thing is certain/still unclear/worth churning out another column about. The result of this by-election spells out in the most unambiguous way that we *must* introduce proportional representation immediately/build some better hotels in Hillhead/hold vital by-elections a bit closer to London. Nobody can deny that the SDP has now established itself as a new force in politics/just another party like the others/a dream that crumbled at the first touch of reality, and our political system simply has to be adapted so that it can reflect this in Parliament/keep Shirley Williams off the television prevent those ludicrous midnight election results which so infuriate politicians/voters/me.

And what of Mr Jenkins's future? The way ahead now seems clear/dreary/rosy/rose/claret/hock/in pawn. All commentators agree that he has no option but to become the leader of the SDP/demand a recount/go and stand in the El Salvador elections. We may refer to him jokingly as Woy/Old Smoothie chops/the greatest politician since Disraeli/Asquith/Dick Taverne, but from today the humour must stop, for he has truly earned the right to nationally respect/final obscurity/a shooting squad and a last cigar.

Speaking personally, I can only take off my hat/take off in the next plane south from Glasgow. As I sit here surrounded by jubilant supporters/in a traffic jam on the M1/in a deserted *Times* building, I have only one message for Mr Jenkins and his merry crew of crusaders/carpet-baggers/middle class idealists, and that is — Thank you! Thanks to you I now have faith in the future/decided to emigrate/won £800 from my colleagues.

(This report appeared in some editions of yesterday's *Times*/last Monday's *Guardian*/Bernard Levin's book on the 1960s).

OBITUARY

PROFESSOR MARIO PRAZ

Outstanding Italian interpreter of English life and letters

Professor Mario Praz, who was Professor of English Language and Literature at the University of Rome from 1934 to 1966, and one of the great interpreters of English literature, thought and manners to Italian students in this century, died in Rome on March 23. He was 85.

Praz was among the most outstanding English scholars in continental Europe. Added to the complete equipment of an Italian scholar and a very wide reading in Western European literatures had had a profound knowledge of English poetry and prose that would have put many an English specialist in this country to shame. He could, for example, translate English verse into Italian and *vice-versa* with equal facility and accomplishment.

But his interest extended far beyond the frontiers of the merely literary. They ranged over the whole field of Anglo-Italian relations, human, literary, historical. In all these fields his vast eclecticism enabled him to shed light in the darkest corners.

Mario Praz was born in Rome in 1896, the son of Luciano Praz and Giulia Testa Di Marsciano. He was educated at Rome and Florence and came to England in 1923 to qualify for the title of *libero docente* in English literature. During the period of his studies for this he worked at the British Museum and subsequently obtained the post of senior lecturer in Italian at Liverpool University, in 1924. He was at Liverpool until 1932 when he moved to Manchester University where he was Professor Of Italian Studies until 1934. In 1934 he left Manchester for Rome where he was Professor of English until his retirement, when he was made Professor Emeritus.

As a writer Praz's output was vast, and his interests and his approach to them, catholic and not infrequently discursive. No byway was uninteresting to him. He was as at home with large fundamental subjects like Shakespeare as he was with the minutiae of lexicography. His comments on the Hazon English-Italian and Italian-English dictionaries for example, were as astute as any.

His first publications in the 1920s dealt with Lamb, Byron and seventeenth-century poetry and included monographs on Donne and Crashaw. His *Machiavelli and the Elizabethans* was given as the British Academy Annual Italian Lecture of 1928.

In 1930 appeared one of his best known works, *La Morte e Il Diavolo nella Letteratura Romantica*. This was published in English as *The Romantic Agony*. A work of extraordinary erudition, it was courageous also, in its time, for refusing to shun an exploration of the erotic pathology in literature. His *Storia della Letteratura Inglese* was a single volume history of English literature from Anglo-Saxon to modern times which was, again, comprehensive in scope and meticulous in detail.

There was no period of English literature on which Praz did not write something of interest: The Middle Ages; the Elizabethan and Jacobean periods; the age of Johnson; Romantic poetry; Victorian fiction; the age of Lawrence and Virginia Woolf, all received his scrutiny.

There was often much in what he wrote which could open the eyes of Englishmen to aspects of their own heritage. Thus his *Gusto Neoclassico* of 1940 belonged to days when, as far as English studies were concerned, neo-classicism was one of the less attractive *culs-de-sac*. It lived on to be translated by Angus Davidson and published in this country in 1968, at which time it was still capable of making a major contribution to the, by then reawakened interest in that period. Indeed, though he could be pungent enough when occasion demanded perhaps it is not wide of the mark to find in Praz's own style with its urbane lucidity, the imprint of the English 18th century.

He was, too, equally erudite on the seventeenth century; his excellent study of seventeenth-century emblems, devices and imagery, appearing as early as 1934 in Milan as *Studi sul Concettismo* before appearing in English in 1939. This important study was reprinted and revised several times in the following years.

Praz's *Cronache Letterarie Anglosassoni* published on volumes over the years gathered together reviews and articles which ranged over the whole field of his relations with English culture.

Praz's contribution to Anglo-Italian relations was acknowledged by the British Government with an Hon KBE in 1962 and he had numerous other honours including honorary doctorates from the Sorbonne, Uppsala and Aix-Marseille.

He married, in 1934, Vivyan Eyles. There was a daughter of the marriage which was dissolved in 1947.

MR THOMAS HODGKIN

Mr Thomas Hodgkin, who did more than anyone to establish the serious study of African history in this country, died yesterday in Greece. He was 71.

It was not until comparatively late in life that he came into contact with black Africa, where his reputation as a teacher and writer largely rests. Before then it had been the Arab and Islamic worlds that principally occupied him, while still later in life he made another switch of interest (without abandoning any of the others), this time to Vietnam.

As a teacher and writer Hodgkin was particularly concerned to demolish the myth that Africa was a continent without history, or that its significant history only began when it was brought into contact with the West.

But though he held academic posts and wrote scholarly books and articles his main concern was with people. His pupils were his friends and proteges; for them (and for their friends and proteges) the resources of his time, home, influence, and purse were laid open.

Thomas Lionel Hodgkin was born on April 3, 1910. The grandfather after whom he was named was the Quaker banker and historian, author of *Italy and her Invaders*. His father was Fellow, and later Provost, of Queen's College, Oxford, and his mother one of the three beautiful daughters of A. L. Smith, Master of Balliol. He went to the Dragon School, to Winchester with an exhibition, and to Balliol with a scholarship. He got a second in Mods and a first in Greats. Though he worked hard he played harder, not so much at organized games as at the OUDS, the Union, and the sort of social escapades and extravagances which often seem funnier to the actors than to the observers but which were an agreeable part of university life until the gloomy thirties clamped down.

A senior demyship at Magdalen gave him a chance to travel (he had already made some adventurous journeys on foot through Greece and Albania), and he spent the season of 1932-33 with Professor Garstang's gig at Jericho. Archaeology was not his metier, but he fell in love with the country and people of Palestine and was lucky enough a year later to be offered by the Colonial Office a post in the Palestine Government. After a spell in the secretariat he was made private secretary to the High Commissioner, General Sir Arthur Wauchope.

He now began to think deeply about the world he was in, about the problems of peace and war and empire. The direction of his thoughts was helped along by a Marxist friend who sent him Lenin on Imperialism and similar tracts. His conversion was soon complete. The Arab rebellion broke out in April 1936; Hodgkin resigned from the government in May. He returned to England, joined the Communist Party, made an unhappy attempt to become an elementary school teacher, and sank into gloom and inactivity. Two things rescued him: he was offered a post with the Friends' Service Council in West Cumberland, where in organizing classes among the unemployed he uncovered his talent for adult education, and in December 1937 he married Dorothy Crowfoot.

Dorothy Crowfoot Hodgkin may or may not be, as has been said, the cleverest woman in England; she was to prove the most devoted of wives, mothers (they had two sons and a daughter), and grandmothers.

In 1939 he became a WEA staff tutor in North Staffordshire, where he remained throughout the war, having been rejected for active service on medical grounds.

In 1945 he was appointed Secretary to the Oxford Delegacy for Extra-Mural Studies and became a professorial Fellow of his old college. It was now that he had his first taste of black Africa, being sent to Nigeria and the Gold Coast to advise on setting up universities. A year later he went on a similar mission to the Sudan, a country which, with its mixture of Arab and Negro cultures, always had a high place in his affections.

He stayed at the delegacy until 1952 but then left in order to get to know Africa and Africans. He undertook a six months' journey through West and Central Africa, travelling the hard way.

He got to know well many African leaders, then still engaged in their struggles for independence men like Kwameh Nkrumah, Tom Mboya, Houphouet-Boigny, Felix Moumie, Julius Nyerere, and Franz Fanon.

His *Nationalism in Colonial Africa* appeared in 1956; *Nigerian Perspectives*, an anthology of original material for the history of Nigeria from the earliest times to the end of the nineteenth century, in 1960, with a second edition in 1975, and *African Political Parties*, a Penguin, in 1961. These books, and the many articles and reviews which he contributed to the *Spectator*, the *New Statesman*, the *Times Literary Supplement*, and other more specialized periodicals, were written with great care. He had been a stylist of the best sort from early days. A *Festschrift* in honour of his sixtieth birthday was published by the *Cambridge University Press* in 1970.

In 1961 he was made first Director of the Institute of African Studies at the University of Ghana making it a lively centre of study, learning, and talk for students and teachers from all parts of the world.

In 1965 Hodgkin was appointed Lecturer in the Government of New States at Oxford, a post which was his final retirement from academic life in 1970. He had meanwhile paid a visit to Hanoi, where his daughter was working as a translator, and become fascinated by the country. In 1974 he returned for a three month's stay to gather material for a history of Vietnam, which was published in July 1981.

Though in politics a radical (in its contemporary meaning of Marxist), who delighted in the prospect of revolution in every country except those where his friends were in power, Hodgkin enjoyed tradition and was keenly interested in the tribal ancestors. His health was almost always bad. From early manhood he suffered from narcolepsy, and guests at his house in the Cotswolds became accustomed to finding their host fall asleep in the middle of a meal which he himself had expertly cooked, wake up to start work at midnight, and greet them at breakfast with the choice of sherry or marsala to accompany their cornflakes.

PROFESSOR KEITH BOWDEN

Colleagues and friends write:

Professor Keith Bowden, who was tragically killed on a road accident on March 12 was one of the founder members of the Department of Computer Science established on 1967 at the University of Essex.

He was educated at St John Deane's School, Sandbach, and Manchester University, where he graduated in 1958 as the outstanding electrical engineering student of that year. He then joined Professor Kilburn's computer team and made significant contributions to the design and implementation of the Atlas, a benchmark of computer power to this day.

Whereas mainstream computing continued with mainframe computers, Bowden saw clearly that the application of computers for monitoring and control purposes was going to revolutionize the field of automation. He started by using spare milliseconds of Atlas time to control an X-ray goniometer but quickly saw that there would be a need for small, cheap, dedicated computers such as the PDP-8 for such purposes. (This was several years before micro-electronic technology made such application commonplace.) He was also interested in the use of computers to assist the pilotage of aircraft, and particularly for that reason he took up flying, and gained not only his pilot's licence but also an instrument instructor's licence and more recently, a helicopter pilot's licence.

In 1967 he moved to the new University of Essex where he was the driving force behind the establishment of computer systems in undergraduate computing, giving the course at Essex unusual breadth. He led a number of externally funded projects including the first application of computers to maintain personal medical records in Britain.

Bowden's expertise was much in demand by national bodies; he was a member of the Computer Board and was a moderator for the British Computer Society.

He also devoted much energy to the university in general, having been Proctor, Chairman of Department, Director of the Computing Centre and, at the time of his death, Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Service). He had also served on, and been chairman of, innumerable other university committees.

Outside the university, he led an equally full life. He was chairman of the Sub-Committee of Project Horizon, which sought to encourage the application of technology to improve the quality of life of the mentally disabled. He and his wife renovated a large Suffolk residence to create a school for children with special needs.

To all who knew him this tragedy will leave an irreplaceable void in their lives. He was a man of exceptional kindness, always willing to share his manifold talents. He lived life so fully, that in a mere 45 years he had accomplished more than most of us could hope to in several lifetimes.

He leaves a widow, Hilary, and two children.

Television

Awaiting terrors

"Try and relax, girl, for God's sake . . . right, goodnight then mate . . . you okay, cocker? . . . goodnight boy . . . goodnight . . ." With these homely words Bruce Anderson took what could easily have been final leave of his wife and three sons during last night's Forty Minutes (BBC2). Shortly afterwards, bathed, shaved, and sterilized within an inch of his life, Anderson was turned back at the launch pad, to drag through many more days' waiting.

The heart which he might have inherited was awarded to Vaju Manek, similarly purified and kitted out like a spaceman for the jouney that would make or break him. Manek's wife ran up and laid her hands on his protective hood as he was wheeled away: "My love, I love you, my darling, bye bye." As viewers will discover next week, that leave-taking was final: Manek died the following day.

Did anyone watch *Waiting for a Heart* without flinching? I doubt it very much, *despite the current glut of* programmes on surgery and terminal disease. The events it portrayed were simply too awe-inspiring for ordinary mortals to gaze on in comfort. In this dark world men crawled about in terror, *waiting for the phone to* bring news of a fatal accident and the consequent chance of escape it *held* out for them. It was a world of heroic courage, cruel disappointments and passionate family devotion.

Operating under conditions which must have been nerve-wracking to say the least, the cameras built up an impressive picture of the medical team as it was galvanized into frantic life after weeks of careful *planning*. I am not sure whether I shall have the courage to sit through more episodes of this remarkable documentary series by Louise Panton, but those who do will clearly not be wasting their time.

When English (and, increasingly, Australian) literary gents take film crews back to the scenes of their youth the occasion is generally turned into an orgy of self-promotion. Prafulla Mohanti's *My Village, My Life* (BBC2) was, by contrast, blessedly unpretentious: here reminiscence served a nobler purpose.

Mohanti regularly revisits Nanpur to keep a hold on its "love, beauty and simplicity". The world he delincated, with the aid of Nigel Walters's cameras, was not without its institutionalized cruelties, but at its core lay two virtues which we in the West now despise — patience an *stoicism*. There was much here which I shall not forget: images of the kind that warm the spirits and refresh the parts that "civilization" no *longer manages* to reach.

Paula Milne was the author of *A Sudden Wrench*, this week's original and effectively didactic Play for Today. She was also the author of Love is Old, Love is New (BBC1), which began its four-episode run last night. This seems to be a conventional product from the menstrual school of drama, by which I mean not drama written from a female point of view but drama imbued with a particular kind of sludgy gynaecological mawkishness.

"We Want To Have a Baby" blared the cover of the book Jane Asher thoughtfully held up for us in bed (a lot of drama between her and the excellent James Fox takes place among tear-drenched Habitat pillows). Lines come encased in strip-cartoon bubbles, heavy dramatic points are plangently underscored and underscored again. This is a difficult art form, and Ms Milne has not yet mastered it. Personally, I preferred the *high-class soft porn of* Andrea Newman's *Alexa*, the forerunner in this slot.

Michael Church

Bryan Appleyard investigates a threat to visiting foreign orchestras

London trying to build musical barricades

An attempt by the musical establishment to prevent a major concert series by a foreign orchestra in London has started a bitter battle over London's position as an international centre for music. At the heart of the dispute is the little-known system whereby foreign orchestras are subjected to regulation by an industrial *body* in *tandem* with the Department of Employment.

The proposed visit which has brought the matter to a head involves the Los Angeles Philharmonic Orchestra, which was intending to give a series of five Brahms concerts at the Royal Festival Hall in *May* and June next year. But another planned visit, by the Vienna Philharmonic in 1984, is also in jeopardy. This would involve a complete Beethoven cycle over six concerts.

The body standing in the way of these programmes is the Visiting Orchestras Consultative Association (VOCA), which includes representatives from orchestras, the Arts Council, the Musicians' Union, local authorities, concert venues and agents. When a visit is proposed VOCA makes recommendations to the Department of Employment which then generally rubber-stamps these and issues the necessary work permits.

The Vienna and Los Angeles visits both infringe one of VOCA's rules: *that* no foreign orchestra shall give more than two concerts at any of the prime London venues. But Harrison Parrott, the agency which has organized both tours *and does not* belong to VOCA, is determined to challenge the validity of such a rule up to, if necessary, ministerial level; and one MP, Sir Brandon Rhys Williams, has *already* been approached.

The agency is receiving enthusiastic backing from Los Angeles, where Mr Ernest Fleischmann, *the executive director of the L.A.* Philharmonic, commented: "We are not going to take this lying down. Planned but uncontracted visits to America by London's Philharmonia and the *leading* London opera company are threatened by the attitudes being adopted in London. We may well be constrained to ask the American authorities to act."

In London Mr Christopher Bishop, managing director of the Philharmonia, replied: "We are not frightened by such vapid threatening. It is extremely ungracious of those involved to think they could come along and break the rules."

The first moves which precipitated the crisis occured in May *last year when Mr Jasper Parrott* of Harrison Parrott wrote to the DoE notifying them of plans to *present the L.A.* Philharmonic at the Festival Hall. VOCA has no monopoly position in processing such applications and the DoE has in fact recently made it clear that *agents are not compelled to use it.*

Mr Parrott was acting on the *basis* of enthusiastic support from Mr Ian Maclay, then planning manager of the Festival Hall. The visit would coincide with the 150th anniversary of Brahms's birth and *the ninetieth of his death.* The scale of the programme and the quality of the orchestra, under its music director Carlo Maria Giulini, clearly represented a prestige acquisition *for the* hall, particularly at a time when it was expecting severe competitive pressure from the newly-opened Barbican.

Mr Parrott heard nothing from the DoE but it became clear that the application had been passed to VOCA. Subsequent meetings of VOCA appear to have resulted in *strenuous opposition* led by *the* Musicians' Union and three of the four independent London orchestras. The fourth, the Royal Philharmonic, has effectively *broken ranks as Mr Maclay* has moved there as managing director and he still feels strongly that the *London* music scene *would* benefit from such important foreign visitors.

VOCA members prefer to refer inquiries to VOCA itself, which in turn declines to comment on individual cases, so cogent reasoning for the opposition to the visits *is hard to come* by. *However, the* rule exists to protect London musicians and, as an effective import control, has always had the determined backing of the union. *With the present left-wing orientation* of the Greater London Council it is an attitude which would be likely to win support and thus the Festival Hall, which *works closely* with, and is dependent on, the GLC, is in no position to protest in support of its original enthusiasm for the project.

However, Mr Parrott calculates that the opposing political orientation of the Government could mean that an appeal to ministerial level would win through in the end. The law appears to give the Secretary of State for Employment considerable discretion in *such matters* and *the VOCA rules* exist solely on a consensus basis. "It depends on what you mean by a rule," commented Mr Parrott.

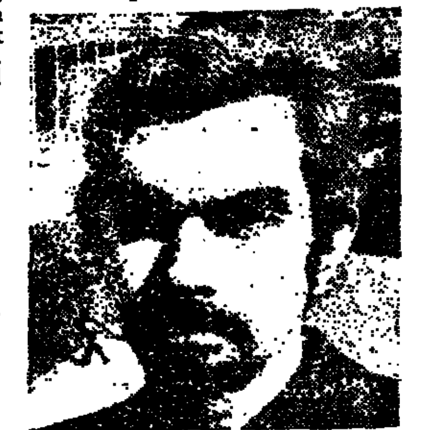
The battle reached a climax on *Tuesday this week* when Mr Geoffrey Hedger at the DoE held a meeting at which Mr Parrott, who was invited in for the latter half, was told the DoE and VOCA had decided against the Los Angeles visit. However, under further pressure, Mr Hedger agreed to send a memorandum to all members of the VOCA committee suggesting a reconsideration. The matter is therefore still technically under consideration, though Mr Parrott holds out little hope for this route.

The *Los Angeles* tour *would* have involved London, Paris, Vienna, Copenhagen and Florence, and Mr Fleischmann says one city dropping out would damage the whole tour's finance. It would also mark London as the least welcoming city on the international music circuit. He thought that not only London as a venue would be threatened but also that the ability of British orchestras to tour overseas could *be permanently damaged.*

Mr Jack Stoddard at the Musicians' Union would not comment, Mr Michael Kaye, general administrator of the Festival Hall, said he was not involved and Mr Anthony Burley, secretary of VOCA, *said the case* was still under consideration.

At the Philharmonia Mr Bishop said both visits would mean a substantial chunk being taken out *of the middle of the season for the* main London orchestras at their primary home.





Jasper Parrott (above), pessimistic but determined to challenge the system, and Ian Maclay, "breaking ranks" at the *Royal Philharmonic*

Cinema

A heroine for the Economic Miracle

Lola (AA)

Screen on the Hill; Paris Pullman; Cinecenta

Celeste (AA)

Camden Plaza

I Live in Fear (A)

Gate, Camden

Evil Under the Sun (A)

Warner West End; ABC Shaftesbury Av.; other cinemas

Clarence and Angel

Ritzy, Brixton

The Marriage of Maria Braun, Lili Marleen, Lola and *Veronika Voss* are, so we are advised by their director Rainer Werner Fassbinder, only the first films in a huge series in which he intends to examine modern German history through a series of female protagonists. Lola *provides his heroine for* Adenauer's Germany and the early years of the Economic Miracle. Her name, something of the small-town atmosphere and the essential story situation about a man of position and self-respect who succumbs to the seductions of a *femme fatale* are borrowed remotely from *The Blue Angel.*

The little town shares the *large* and *greedy ambitions* of the whole country at the start of the Fifties. Local authority and local entrepreneurs are in one another's pockets, all standing to profit from grandiose schemes of civic development. The poles *upon which economic as well* as social life focus are the church and the brothel, where Lola is one of the principal entertainments. Lola has caught the general mood of opportunism; she reserves herself exclusively for the biggest *and richest* man in town, a ruthless, energetic building contractor. *Her idealist* young admirer from the planning authority, who in his off-time demonstrates against public corruption and rearmament, only gets to read poetry to her in her budoir.

This idyll of social progress and profit for all is threatened by the arrival of a new man in the building administration, eager to work by the book and to expose abuses. Everyone, *though*, has his price: his proves to be Lola.

Cynicism suits Fassbinder better than the more heroic poses of *Lili Marleen; and Lola* allows him to exercise his special ability for evoking a period not just through the externals but by recreating a moral atmosphere. The venal, hypocritical, corrupt, opportunistic society may not be an exact or comprehensive picture of the years of *expansion and optimism;* but Fassbinder convinces us that this is how it felt and what it was like at the time.



Lola (Barbara Sukowa) shouldered by the building contractor Schuckert (Mario Adorf)

The powerful sense of period is reinforced by the images. The director of photography, Xaver Schwar*zenberger, uses the kind of* lurid, artificial lighting effects that became fashionable in the early years of large-scale colour magazines: Lola's hair is haloed in strange spotlight mauves; the heads in a two-shot are *individually* lit in vivid, contrasting pink and blue.

The film is also invigorated by an injection of new blood into Fassbinder's usual repertory company. Barbara Sukova is a truly seductive Lola. Quickly sparking out of *lethargic boredom when* there is commercial profit in view; Armin Müller-Stahl is her victim, a man whose professional rigour and private enthusiasm for art and music conceal a gullible and enduring innocence.

Celeste, the first feature by the documentary director Percy Adlon, is a period piece meticulously observed, as suits the subject, from the outside. It is an imaginative reconstruction of the last years of the life of Proust, *based on the recollections,* written half a century after his death, of his housekeeper Celeste Albaret (now 91 and still living just outside Paris).

Patiently nursing him in his battle with asthma and his own pathological fastidiousness, Celeste became the companion and confidante of *the strange little* man, and eventually his amanuensis, carefully collating and pasting together, concertina fashion, his constantly *amended manuscripts.*

Percy Adlon, patient as Celeste herself, and with a Proustian care for detail, recreates the daily devotion; *the tact on one side and* growing, reluctant trust on the other; the constant vigil, awaiting *the bell* that *signals* either an asthmatic fit or the periodic need for a ration of coffee and milk. Incidentally it documents Proust's creative *method, notably* his painstaking quest for models to supply an essential lack of inventive imagination. It is exquisitely staged, impeccable, and yet might not altogether concentrate the attention of such of us who *do not progress beyond* volumes four or five of Proust himself.

Minimal cinema is nothing new. Akira Kurosawa's I Live *in Fear (alternatively known* as *Record of a Living Thing*) used such a method 27 years ago. It was long before its time, had a poor reception at the 1955 Venice Film Festival and was very little seen after that, so that the present *showing* is its British première.

This is a period piece whose style is too idiosyncratic to have dated, and whose theme—fear of nuclear weaponry—is still all too topical. Toshiro Mifune, at that time at the peak *of his* heroic glamour, subsumes himself into the character of an aged iron-master so terrified at the implications of a possible *nuclear war that he* wants to take his large family to some illusory safe place in Brazil. Mifune's performance, showing the old man's gradually growing panic and *retreat into mental isolation*, is remarkable, and Kurosawa's dramaturgical management of the family debate, which provides the core of the film, is exemplary; but the minimal cinema style demands, again, a very dogged *effort of attention.*

Attention is not altogether desirable in face of a detective serial as full of plot flaws as Evil Under the Sun. The formula of the Hercule Poirot films is now immovably fixed. You assemble an *all-star group* of characters, in a suitably decorative location, and establish a good reason for every one of the rest of them to wish the *death of the* nastiest of the bunch (whom the audience will not miss, anyway). The victim is killed; Poirot potters about checking everyone's alibi. In the last reel he calls the group together while he exposes at length *and with flashback illus*trations how he discovered that the murderer was the one we all least expected. The whole is rounded off with a neat twist.

What counts in the current Agatha Christie series is character (and in this one far too much depends on Peter Ustinov's pleasantly familiar Poirot and Maggie Smith's courtesan hotelier) and expensively-bought *quality*. The production credits are full of respectable and long-established names: Guy Hamilton as director, Chris*topher Challis as cinema*tographer; costumes by Anthony Powell who also did *Tess*; and title designs by the PRA. The script is by Anthony Shaffer, but you would hardly know were it not written on the titles. *Agatha Christie's own dia*logue is no great inspiration of course, but this script is peculiarly *flat, ploddingly* spelling out its plot points, culpably careless about such matters as quoting 1982 dollar exchange rates in 1937, and a generally *anachronistic* idiom.

The most wholly endearing film of the week is to be found in Brixton, where the Ritzy is showing the first feature of Robert Gardner, Clarence and Angel. Clarence *and Angel are pupils* in an overcrowded West Side school. Clarence is a black boy who *is a slow reader;* Angel is a Puerto Rican of manic energy. Both, though bright, are handfuls for the overworked and themselves *none-too-*bright *teachers;* and in consequence they spend most of their time together in the corridor *outside* their respective classroom doors.

Here they cement a riotous but fruitful friendship. Between entertaining him *with* frightful fibs, Angel initiates Clarence into the mysteries of literacy; and in *the last scene* Clarence is able triumphantly to challenge his teachers with his skill. The world of the school is unerringly caught from the *boys' eye-level.* The film is so irresistibly funny and warm that it is easy to forgive the *director* occasionally being seduced by the children's *cuteness* and cleverness, and letting it run away with him.

David Robinson

Opera

Fascinating vocal effects

Salome

Covent Garden

The important feature of this revival at the Royal Opera House of Richard Strauss's *Salome* is the transfer of Josephine Barstow in the *name part from the Coliseum* in English to Covent Garden in German, recognition by the *international* house of exceptional achievement in the other place.

Almost as important is Elijah Moshinsky's staging, much less cluttered than Everding's original, action and character more lucidly presented, Majewski's burgeoning set rendered more *appropriate, less fussy than* at first it looked when overpopulated.

That was to show how public was Salome's revenge on the holy man who spurned her advances. Even now her behaviour seems by no *means surreptitious;* Moshinsky and Barstow have evidently worked purposefully together, and her Salome is even more fascinating a portrayal than the one she gave us in St Martin's Lane.

I must add that Nick Chelton's lighting is exemplary in an opera whose atmosphere much depends on *subtle blends of chiaroscuro.*

A new Narraboth is on hand in the handsome person and voice of Ramon Remedios, another well-merited *transfer* from the Coliseum, still rather stiff in physical action though vocally a strength in the opening scenes when he is the protagonist still. There is a new Jokanaan in Bernd Weikl, firm and rich and *burnished of voice, properly* fanatical in rousing Salome's lust by his fervent asceticism.

Then there is Zubin Mehta's much developed control of the performance as conductor; the Covent Garden orchestra plays for him as if lives depended on the cooperation. The orchestral playing was quite wonderful in nuance and solo artistry and blend of tone, Mehta's approach this time devoted to the balancing of the music's structure as a dramatic and symphonic organism, great intensity but not excess.

It is not often, in an operatic revival, that *small* roles attract attention. They should do so in *Salome*, and here the five disputatious Jews, as well-voiced as you *could hope to hear anywhere,* did just that; likewise the Nazarenes, and Claire Powell as Herodias's page, and Josephine Veasey's *slavering voyeuse* Herodias, a strong impersonation, like Ragnar Ulfung's vivid Herod.

Barstow's. Salome is still undersized for Covent Garden, especially at the lower end of the voice, words still sacrificed to tone, and tone more often expressive than lustrous. She can do marvellous things with her voice. *Her apostrophe to the head* of her victim was studded with memorable emphases and effects of vocal colour. I do hope that this tremendous *performance will not remove* Miss Barstow from us for ever.

William Mann

Eritrea

Collegiate Theatre

Diligent collectors of Cavalli's operas could by now have heard seven of them in *Britain in the last few years.* And his idiomatic fingerprints have become distinct: softer, suaver than *Monte*verdi's, and less inclined to tug chromatically at our heartstrings, his music has its own melodic flow, its own *chirpy little tunes for* the comical characters, its own gently pathetic turns of cadence, its own readiness to slip between aria, arioso and conversational recitative as the plot demands.

The latest opera to gain a *hearing here, after an outing* at a recent Wexford Festival, is *Eritrea*. It comes from the same period in Cavalli's career, the beginning of the 1650s, as *Rosinda* and *Calisto*, and shares with them and the earlier *Egisto* and *Ormindo its librettist, Giovanni* Faustini. For *Eritrea* Faustini provided a weakish, rather tortuous plot and some highly cynical observations about womankind for the lighter characters, but also much smoothly flowing verse, *inviting* and *receiving* its musical parallel from Cavalli, and numerous opportunities for duets, *which* after so much spare texture fall as balm on the ear.

The textures in Wednesday's Camden Festival performance of this Phoenix *Opera production* seemed almost excessively spare. I am not asking for swooning strings or plushy harps, but a little more enterprise, a little more imaginative richness, from the harmonic continuo players, and a little more *awareness of harmonic direc*tion and verbal phrasing in the shaping of the bass line. This might have made the score more arresting to the ear and the mind; so too might more careful pacing from the conductor, Jane Glover. Or perhaps *I mean* less careful: for part of the trouble was that some of the music that demanded a naturally flowing tempo, the very first scene of Act I, for example, where the sexual escapades lacked any sense of playfulness, was held back, and subjected to a kind of moulding that it neither needed nor benefited from.

The performance looked well: warm-toned and glittering costumes, with an eye more to the seventeenth *century than to ancient* Assyria, and a practical and flexible set, by Terence Emery, *in which Tom Haw*kes had the characters moving naturally and with some style. There was a good deal of vocal distinction, too. *Sandra Browne's rich voice,* full and firm down to well below the bottom of the stave, graced Laodicea's music. As Eurimedonte, Adrian Thompson struck a proper note of passion in his main Act I scene and again in *prison in Act II;* his characteristically graceful singing was heard to best advantage in the last act.

Sally Burgess sang with her usual intelligence in the title part, firm-toned when disguised as her dead brother Periandro, softer when she is *finally allowed to be herself.* As her ultimate consort, Theramene, James Bowman was in *full, clear voice.* Johanna Peters's comic vignette of the waiting-woman avoided exaggeration, as Linda Ormiston's of the page *did not.*

■ Performances tonight and Saturday.

Stanley Sadie

Concert

Leipzig Gewandhaus Orchestra/Masur

Festival Hall/Radio 3

Although Samuel Barber's Adagio for Strings has been a *popular classic* since the days of Toscanini's advocacy, and must have been performed all over the place, it was quite salutary to hear it from the *Leipzig* Gewandhaus Orchestra under Kurt Masur on Wednesday.

This German orchestra lent a different emphasis from the usual one to the nostalgic pathos of the long, finely-*spun* lines. A carefully balanced tension between widely arching melodies and rich harmony yielded a frail, elegiac quality so that American *innocence was touched* with an almost Mahlerian world-weariness.

There is something of that quality, too, in Richard Strauss's Four Last Songs, in both the music and in Hesse's and *Eichendorff's* texts, and it goes much deeper. And yet, although the last song asks in its last line "can this, perhaps, be death?", the orchestral colours suggest autumn rather than winter. The beautiful, dark Gewandhaus *string* tone was altogether apt.

Heather Harper, also, was scarcely commanding enough, never producing the pure, floating sounds this music needs although the two final songs were somewhat better. Exquisitely written for the soprano voice, much of this music's sadness arises from its evoking the great days of German songs in the *certain knowledge* that those days were long past.

There are no backward glances in Bruckner's third symphony, and, despite the revisions it underwent and the several versions that exist, Mr Masur got this to sound a remarkably positive work. Indeed, a fine sense of structure was evident throughout his performance, and *the score is well calcu*lated to display the Gewandhaus orchestra's special qualities.

However slow-moving *Bruckner's processes, there* was considerable drama in the opening movement, and much refinement of tone colour. The work's heart lies, of course, in the Adagio, *in* whose first section Mr Masur achieved a memorable feeling of contemplation.

Max Harrison

Theatre

The Black Hole of Calcutta

Drill Hall

The theatre of participation has changed since the 1960s. Then it was all either sensuality or aggression, with groups offering audiences cuddles and caresses in a cluster or baiting them to force arguments. Patrick Barlow's *National Theatre of Brent* offers participation for the 1980s, with lighthearted reenactments of catastrophes from British history.

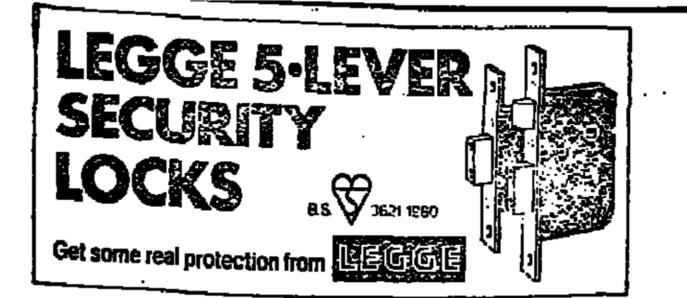
Beginning with the charge of the Light Brigade, he has gone on to the Zulu wars and now charts the Indian Mutiny of 1857. With one actor who serves as "the human map of India" (Bob Goody) and who joins Mr Barlow and Barbara Thorn in a variety of British rôles, it is *up to* the audience to take on the part of the Indian masses, hurling imprecations at British soldiers and sharing the Indian sus*picions of Christianity* and cartridges made with the fat of cows and pigs.

History is presented at its most succinct in the first half, where Bryony Lavery's constantly amusing text seizes on *simple symbols of the* mutiny. Three aubergines, a *few chapatis* and very little else is supplied in the way of props. The weapon that the company uses to engage the spectator is primarily force of personality, and a *structure* of involvement that really does require volunteers to complete the action.

Dislocated events that lead to the worst of the massacres are given a unity by the audience, and particularly by Mr Barlow's easy narrative guidance from *incident to* incident. The show meets the worst explosion of violence by returning after the interval with a scaled down event, *presenting the* three actors as innocent English newcomers to the subcontinent, rushing from the troubles at Delhi in order to witness a few of the complexities of India, and incidentally to witness barbaric British reaction.

As an eccentric addition to the present Festival of India, Susan Todd's production will be touring for the next two months. The laughter that it brings, and the infectiously joyful acting, do not really hide the seriousness of its *attempt to comprehend* the truth of that historical event, without the bias of empire.

Ned Chaillet





Stock Exchange Prices

Firm tone

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, March 15 Dealings End, Today. § Contango Day, March 29. Settlement Day, April 5.

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

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1981/82 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
26	15	TACE	17	..	..	..	..
121	85	TSL Therm Synd	107	..	10.0b	9.3	19.7
25	10	Takeda BDR	£20	..	17.6	0.8	22.7
6½	2½	Talbex Grp	4	..	..	..	..
478	316	Tarmac Ltd	476	-2	23.3	4.9	8.2
220	136	Tate & Lyle	202	..	16.4	8.1	5.0
607	441	Taylor Woodrow	545	-5	19.0	3.5	9.7
400	250	Telephone Rent	333	-3	14.6	4.4	16.6
71	48½	Tesco	61½	-1	3.8	6.2	6.6
125	64	Textured Jersey	80	..	7.9	9.8	3.9

Sterling: Spot and Forward

	Market rates (day's range) March 25	Market rates (close) March 25	1 month	3 months
New York	$1.7960-1.8070	$1.7985-1.7995	0.15-0.25c disc	0.70-0.80c disc
Montreal	$2.2030-2.2110	$2.2035-2.2045	0.50-0.60c disc	1.57-1.67c disc
Amsterdam	4.76-4.79fl	4.76-4.77fl	2¾-2¼c prem	6¾-5¾c prem
Brussels	81.20-81.60f	81.20-81.30f	20-35c disc	80-100c disc
Copenhagen	14.65-14.70k	14.65-14.66k	190-280ore disc	690-825ore disc
Dublin	1.2375-1.2425p	1.2385-1.2395p	55-70p disc	185-205p disc
Frankfurt	4.29½-4.32½m	4.30-4.31m	1⅞-1¾pf prem	4⅞-4⅝pf prem
Lisbon	127.00-127.75e	127.05-127.35e	80-235c disc	235-685c disc
Madrid	189.50-190.50p	189.60-189.80p	55-80c disc	175-210c disc
Milan	2359-2368lr	2359½-2361½lr	28-35lr disc	69-77lr disc
Oslo	10.90-10.98k	10.91-10.92k	135-215ore disc	390-480ore disc
Paris	11.19-11.26f	11.19½-11.20½f	26¼-30¼c disc	39½-43½c disc
Stockholm	10.56½-10.61½k	10.57-10.58k	165-125ore prem	345-285ore prem
Tokyo	438-443y	440½-441½y	2.80-2.45y prem	7.80-7.50y prem
Vienna	30.20-30.40sch	30.20-30.25sch	15-11gro prem	37-29gro prem
Zurich	3.41-3.44f	3.42-3.43f	2⅝-2¼c prem	6⅞-6¼c prem

Effective exchange rate compared to 1975, was 91.4 unchanged.

Money Market Rates

Clearing Banks Base Rate 13½%

Discount Mkt Loans%
Overnight: High 13½ Low 11

Week Fixed: 13¼-13

Treasury Bills (Dis%)

Buying		Selling	
2 months	12²⁹⁄₃₂	2 months	12¹³⁄₁₆
3 months	12¹⁷⁄₃₂	3 months	12¹⁵⁄₃₂

Prime Bank Bills (Dis%) Trades (Dis%)

1 month	13³⁄₃₂-13¹⁄₁₆	1 month	13⅞
2 months	12²⁷⁄₃₂-12¾	2 months	13⁹⁄₁₆
3 months	12¹⁹⁄₃₂-12½	3 months	13⅛
6 months	12²³⁄₃₂-12⅝	6 months	13

Local Authority Bonds

1 month	14¼-14	7 months	13½-13¼
2 months	14⅛-13⅞	8 months	13½-13¼
3 months	14-13¾	9 months	13⅝-13⅜
4 months	13¾-13½	10 months	13⅝-13⅜
5 months	13⅝-13⅜	11 months	13⅝-13⅜
6 months	13½-13¼	12 months	13⅝-13⅜

Secondary Mkt. £CD Rates (%)

1 month	13¾-13⅝	6 months	13½-13¼
3 months	13¹⁷⁄₃₂-13⁷⁄₁₆	12 months	13½-13¼

Local Authority Market (%)

2 days	13¾-13½	3 months	13½-13⅝
7 days	13⅞-14	6 months	13⅝-13½
1 month	13⅞	1 year	13⅝

Interbank Market (%)

Overnight: Open 13¾-13¼ Close 12

1 week	13½-13¾	6 months	13⁹⁄₁₆-13⁷⁄₁₆
1 month	13¹³⁄₁₆-13¹¹⁄₁₆	9 months	13⁹⁄₁₆-13⁷⁄₁₆
3 months	13⅝-13⁹⁄₁₆	12 months	13⁹⁄₁₆-13⁷⁄₁₆

First Class Finance Houses (Mkt. Rate%)

3 months 14⅛ 6 months 14

Finance House Base Rate 15%

Other Markets

Australia	1.7005-1.7155
Bahrein	0.6780-0.6810
Finland	8.2685-8.3085
Greece	110-112
Hongkong	10.4840-10.5240
Iran	not available
Kuwait	0.5130-0.5160
Malaysia	4.1980-4.2260
Mexico	80.50-82.00
New Zealand	2.3180-2.3360
Saudi Arabia	6.1545-6.1845
Singapore	3.8230-3.8530
South Africa	1.8725-1.8875

Dollar Spot Rates

* Ireland	2.4530-1.4545
† Canada	1.2251-1.2253
Netherlands	2.6450-2.6460
Belgium	45.10-45.14
Denmark	8.1350-8.1450
West Germany	2.3892-2.3902
Portugal	70.60-70.80
Spain	105.40-105.50
Italy	1312.75-1313.75
Norway	6.0550-6.0650
France	6.2175-6.2225
Sweden	5.8650-5.8750
Japan	244.70-244.85
Austria	16.81-16.83
Switzerland	1.9030-1.9040

* Ireland quoted in US currency.
† Canada $1 : US $0.8161-0.8163

Euro-$ Deposits

(%) calls, 13½-14½; seven days, 14⁷⁄₁₆-14¹¹⁄₁₆; one month, 14¾-15; three months, 14¹³⁄₁₆-15⁵⁄₁₆; six months, 15-15¼.

Gold

Gold fixed: am, $328 (an ounce); pm, $327.75 close, $327.
Krugerrand (per coin): $338-340 (£187.75-188.75).
Sovereigns (new): $80-81 (£44.5-45).

TEA

1981/82 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
230	178	Assam Frontier	225	..	14.3	6.4	..
468	415	Camellia Inv	468	+3	8.6	1.8	..
380	230	McLeod Russel	345	-3	11.8	3.4	..
153	125	Do 8.4% Cnv Pf	125	..	12.0	9.6	..
295	255	Moran	292	..	7.1t	2.4	..
128	93	Surmah Valley	128	..	1.4	1.1	..

MISCELLANEOUS

1981/82 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
46	27½	Calcutta Elec	41	..	8.8	21.4	..
34½	30	Essex Wtr 3.5%	£33½	..	500	14.9	..
34	30	Gt Nthn Tele	£33	..	82.2	2.5	12.8
265	150	Imp Cont Gas	186	-9	11.9	6.4	11.8
158	93	Milford Docks	139	..	0.7	0.5	..
193	122	Nesco Inv	130	..	10.0	7.7	..
35	28½	Sunderlnd Wtr	£33	..	500	15.2	..

• Ex dividend. a Ex all. b Forecast dividend. c Corrected price. e Interim payment passed. f Price at suspension. g Dividend and yield exclude a special payment. h Bid for company. k Pre-merger figures. n Forecast earnings. p Ex capital distribution. r Ex rights. s Ex scrip or share split. t Tax free. y Price adjusted for late dealings. .. No significant data.

RECENT ISSUES

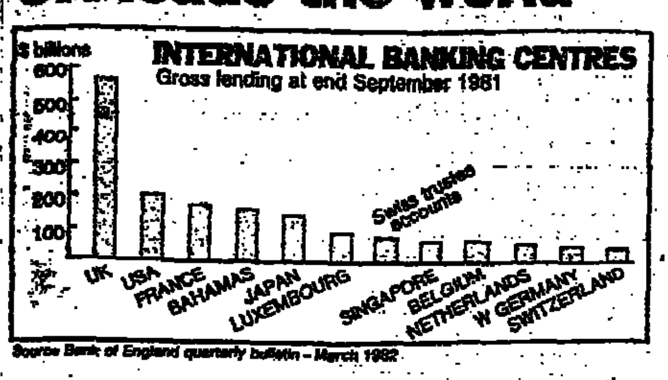
	Closing Price
Amersham International 25p Ord (142)	190+1
Baillie Gifford Japan Trust 25p Ord (100)	73
Exchequer 13¼% 'A' 1987 (j)	£30¾-¼
Fleet Holdings 20p Ord	29½-½
Lee Valley Water 9½% Red Pf 1989 (†b)	£12
Leisure Industries 25p Ord (120a)	133+3
Newmarket Co (1981) Ltd $0.05 (£3.05)	233+5
Oceonics 10p Ord (130a)	166-3
Osprey Assets 25p Ord	39
Owners Abroad 10p Ord (10a)	27¼
Peek Holdings 7p Ord	14+½
Speyhawk 10p Ord (115)	146
Television South West 5p Ord	16
Treasury 3% 1987	£87⅝+⅛
Treasury 2% Index Linked 1988 (†h)	£20
Treasury 2½% Index Linked 2011 (†)	£99

RIGHTS ISSUES	Latest date of renun	
First Castle Electronic (30‡)	May 5	22 prem-1
St Georges Group (74‡)	May 6	27 prem

Issue price in parentheses. * Ex dividend. † Issued by tender. ‡ Nil paid. a unlisted securities market. b £10 paid. f fully paid. g £40 paid. h £30 paid. i £35 paid. j £55 paid. k Issued in units of sixteen shares and £5 nominal loan stock at £9 per unit.

BUSINESS NEWS

UK leads the world



Source Bank of England quarterly bulletin – March 1982

The United Kingdom is the world's biggest international banking centre, with more than a quarter of the market. This is more than twice the share of the United States and more than three times that of France. The United Kingdom has been gaining market share in recent years after losing to newer centres in the early 1970s. But new rules introduced in December to encourage international banking could pose a challenge.

US investment sought

Thirty American electronics companies are discussing further investment in Britain with the Department of Industry. Mr John MacGregor, Parliamentary Secretary of State for Industry, told a conference of American industrialists in London yesterday that Britain is overwhelmingly the preferred location for American electronics companies. Since 1980 five groups have decided to establish manufacturing facilities in the United Kingdom and 12 more have indicated an intention to expand existing British operations.

N Ireland expected to lag

Northern Ireland will recover more slowly from the recession than the rest of the United Kingdom, according to a detailed post-Budget assessment by the influential Economical Council which advises Mr James Prior, the Ulster Secretary. Unemployment will continue to rise by 1,000 a month taking the rate to 25 per cent. A cut in jobless totals is unlikely before 1984, the council says. It calls for more spending on house construction and industrial development.

Machinetool sales down 30 per cent

The machinetool industry's sales were 30 per cent lower in 1981 than in 1980, according to the Department of Trade figures published yesterday. Home sales fell 35 per cent and exports 23 per cent. New export orders, however remained steady during the year. Engineering industry's new orders recovered strongly last year with the orders total at the end of 1981 reaching 11 per cent higher than a year earlier.

● Daily production of crude oil by United States petroleum companies totalled 8.7m barrels in the week ended March 19, unchanged from a week earlier but up from 8.6m barrels in the corresponding year-earlier week.

New candidate

Herr Ernst Breit, 57, head of the German postal workers' union, is likely to be the next chairman of the German Trade Union Federation (DGB). He was adopted last night as the choice of the 17 DGB unions in place of Herr Alois Pfeiffer who withdrew his candidacy after coming under fire for making personal investments in the West Berlin property market.

● EEC industrialists' confidence in the strenghth of their companies weakened in February, breaking last year's upward trend, an EEC Commission survey said.

● The Dutch seasonally adjusted index of industrial orders in hand was unchanged at 97 (base January 1978) in February compared with January.

MARKET SUMMARY

ICI warning hits shares

LONDON EXCHANGE

FT Index 55.9, down 2.7
FT Gilts 68.91, down 0.22
FT All-Share 342.02, down 2.02
Bargains 23,047

Suggestions from the directors of ICI that they may make a cash call to shareholders later in the year pushed shares in the chemical giant down 8p to 318p.

The warning, together with concern about the group's petrochemicals division, came at an analysts meeting when the company said it hoped to restore the 1980 level of 23p a share.

Elsewhere it was trading news and special situations which added the sparkle to a quiet day's trading, with the FT Index ending the day 2.7 down at 559.9.

Tour operator D M Lancaster, better known as Club 18-30, put on 6p to 31p as the company admitted it had received a bid approach. Market speculations suggest that this wil be at 33p a share but Mr Neil Scott, chairman of Owners Abroad, denied any involvement.

Imperial Group shed 1p to 92½p as Mr Geoffrey Kent, chairman, told shareholders that he was confident of seeing much improved pretax profits in the first half of the current year.

Gilts remained out of favour with losses of up to £¼ across the board in thin trading.

Leading equities showed falls ranging from 2p to 5p with Vickers an exception rallying 1p to 160p on further reflection of the £23m rights issue and P & O deferred 4p better at 136p on revived speculative interest and Ocean Transport's results.

BSR reacted to disappointing profits with a 1p fall to 77p but Bemrose reacted to a massive leap in profits with a 12p spurt to 72p, while Ocean Transport and Trading jumped 3p to 123p on encouraging figures.

In the brewery sector Greene King were unchanged at 294p and Wolverhampton & Dudley also unchanged at 194 after large put throughs, believed to have been Arthur Guinness Holdings Guinness shares were 1p down at 78p.

Amstrad shares held firm at 235p as Mr Alan Sugar, chairman, sold just under 900,000 shares at 229 ¾p per share, cutting his stake in the consumer electronics group which he founded from 75 per cent to 65.4 per cent.

A 10per cent growth in profits failed to support Saga Holiday 7p off at 156p, but Horizon was in demand, 8p better at 398 ahead of results due on Monday.

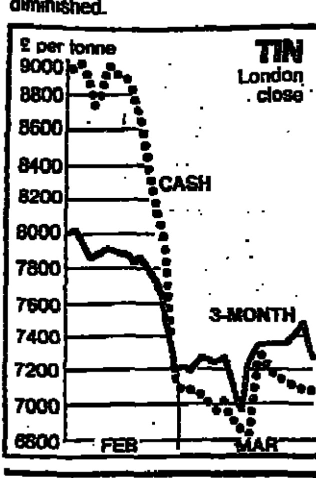
Renewed speculative attention pushed Inter-City Investments the East London textile group, 11p up at 56p. Metan,a Liechtenstein based group picked up a near 25 per cent stake last month.

Equity turnover of March 24 was £202.159m (20,606 bargains).

COMMODITIES

Tin resumed its decline yesterday after a brief period of consolidation. Cash metal fumbled by £60 to end the day at £7,150 a tonne, while three months tin was £64 lower at £7,302. The market is wary of the continued uncertainty within the International Tin Council about whether to impose quotas on members.

Cocoa firmed on near-term supply tightness. March rose £16 to £1,025 a tonne and May put on £10 to £1,026. Dealers are more confident that producers are not about to release cocoa just because other income has diminished.



OTHER EXCHANGES

Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones Index 7,175.16, down 19.15
Hongkong: Hang Seng Index 1,210.18, down 13.2

CURRENCIES

● The French franc was volatile but most currencies traded narrowly. The dollar strengthened on rising Eurodollar rates, while the pound fell in thin late trading.

LONDON CLOSE

Sterling
$1.7990 down 95 points
Index 91.4 unchanged
DM 4.3100
Fr F 11.2250
Yen 440.50
Dollar
Index 115.2 up 0.4
DM 2.3900 up 35 pts
Gold
$327.00 down $5.00

MONEY MARKETS

● The Bank bought £622m of bills outright to relieve a forecast shortage of £550m. Its dealing rates were unchanged.

Domestic rates:
Base rates 13 per cent
3 month interbank 13⅝-13 9/16
Euro-currency rates
3 month dollar 14 15/16-15 3/16
3 month DM 9¼-9⅛
3 month FR F28½-28

TODAY

Board meetings: Interims: Capseals, Cope Allman, Manson Finance Trust, Pifco, Sanderson Murray and Elder, Stothert and Pitt. Finals: Hanger Investments, Charles Hurst, Molins.

Tough stance gives franc further lift

From Charles Hargrove, Paris, March 25

The franc recovered further on the wxchanges at the close of dealing today, confirming the reversal of the downward trend of the past week.

This is partly due to categoric opposition from M Jacques Delors, Finance Minister, to any devaluation or adjustment of parities within the European Monetary System, and to the four point increase in the money market rate in the past 10 days. It was again raised by one point to 18 per cent yesterday.

Additional exchange control measures, including the reduction from one month to 15 days of the delay for repatriation of foreign currency from export earnings, also helped to consolidate the limited recovery of the currency.

While the dollar closed high on the exchanges, at FF6.2445 after 6.229 on Wednesday, The Deutschemark slipped to 2.611 from 3.2925.

Sterling was resilient at 11.24. The Bank of France did not have to intervene on the exchange markets.

The dispelling of fears of a crash devaluation after the bad results of the local elections last Sunday also had a beneficial effect on the Paris Bourse, where shares rose by an average of just under 1 per cent.

The Bank of France is prepared to raise the money market rate still further to attract investors and defeat speculators.

The reversion to high interest rates, however, is a double-edged weapon. It could lead the banks to seek authorization to increase their own lending rates, a step that would diametrically oppose the Government's policy of encouraging investments and stimulating economic activity, but the defence of the franc is the first priority.

The slowdown of economic activity in January is confirmed by the latest figures of the government's statistical office, which show that industrial production fell by 3 per cent compared with December, after three months of a sharp recovery at the rate of 4 per cent a year.

But M Delors remains confident that the gnp will grow by 3 per cent this year, and industrial production by 4 per cent.

The dollar strengthened behind higher Eurodollar deposit rates as worries grew yesterday that American interest rates could rise in the near future. Today's United States money supply figures are expected to show a small increase rather than the hoped-for fall and the month of April could see a bulge in monetary growth because of the timing of social security payments and tax rebates.

Nigerian move puts £250m in jeopardy

By Peter Hill, Industrial Editor

Up to £250m of business could be lost to British companies as a result of the virtual freeze on all imports imposed earlier this week by the Nigerian government.

The nation is one of Britain's largest markets, with British goods accounting for more than one fifth of the country's non-oil imports. Total shipments from the UK last year were £1,500m.

The £250m estimate was made yesterday by the confederation of British Industry, which said that thousands of large and small companies would be affected by the two-month moratorium on imports. In addition the Nigerian subsidiaries of British companies may face difficulties in importing parts and spares.

Leading companies trading with Nigeria include Dunlop, BL, Turner and Newall, Lever Brothers, the United Africa Company, Paterson Zochonis and the Wellcome Foundation. Companies with goods awaiting shipment to Africa's most populous nation are being advised not to send them without a credit note signed in London.

Meanwhile, according to agency reports from Lagos, the Nigerian capital, government officials have attempted to reassure foreign suppliers that contracts signed before this week's decision will be honoured. The Nigerian Central Bank has been forced to order commercial banks to halt the issue of letters of credit and the processing of foreign exchange applications.

The action has been taken against the background of falling oil production, which has been halved to 630,000 barrels a day in the past week, and the sharp drop in oil revenues. Faced with the slump in world oil prices Nigeria's foreign exchange reserves have been seriously depleted to $2,800m — enough to cover imports for only two months

Professor Green Nwankwo of the Nigerian Central Bank was quoted by Nigerian newspapers as saying that imports for which paperwork had been completed before the directives were issued would be unaffected.

US loan rates cast shadow on world economies

Bank cautious on recovery

By John Whitmore

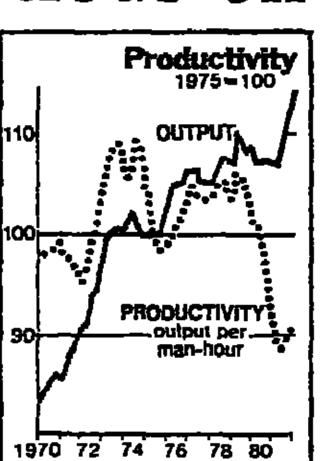
The Bank of England is taking a cautious line in its view of prospects for economic recovery this year and warns that any sizeable rise in international interest rates would increase the difficulties for companies and tend to make economic growth this year less likely.

But the latest edition of the Bank's Quarterly Bulletin makes it clear that in general the economy is now in a better position to respond favourably to an increase in demand.

Although the Bank gives no specific forecast of its own for the economy, its assessment places considerable emphasis on the uncertainties surrounding the course of international interest rates, exchange rates and oil prices.

The Bank says there could be continued upward pressure on United States interest rates this year as a result of a combination of a large federal deficit and economic recovery. However, it adds that the United States authorities are aware of the disadvantages of the high interest rates and the way in which they can have a sharp impact on economic activity.

The Bulletin points out that high United States interest rates place other countries in a considerable dilemma. They have either to accept higher interest rates themselves, with harmful consequences for economic growth, or a fall in their exchange rates, with harmful inflationary effects.



But the Bank adds that to the extent that it is possible for European countries to maintain a degree of parallelism in their interest rates, this should ease the conflict between internal and external considerations and help to keep interest rates lower.

This appears to mean that the major European countries should recognize their joint interest and consult each other. The Bank says that any united action on interest rate policies would be difficult to operate because of the differing market factors and political sensitivities.

On the domestic economy the Bank says that, despite the forecasting difficulties imposed by the forecasting difficulties imposed by the problem of pinpointing exactly where the bottomming of the recession occurred last year, most forecasters agree that output should continue to grow in 1982.

The bank says that although the projected fall in the PSBR as a proportion of g.d.p. continued to reflect a cautious fiscal stance, the Budget changes meant that prospects for output were higher, and for inflation lower, than they would otherwise have been.

The Bulletin notes the encouraging trend in wages, prices and productivity. But while commenting that exports grew more strongly than expected last year, it notes that the performance of non-oil exports over the past two years has been less good. Over that period exports of manufactured goods have fallen slightly while world markets have grown by about 3½ per cent.

The Bank also expresses concern about the high level of import penetration. This, it says, cannot be explained either by movements in competitiveness or by the long established tendency for imports to rise over time irrespective of changes in competitiveness and domestic demand.

Fred the robot is school star

These boys from Trinity School, Carlisle, won one of the five star prizes in the Department of Industry's second schools computer competition with a computer-controlled robot called Fred. The other winners were from Braintree, Essex, Norwich, Sandwell, West Midlands, and Port Glasgow. One hundred schools won microcomputers in the competition, but these five schools also received a graphics board and the required computer programs, a colour monitor and a printer. Five special schools, at Biggleswade, Bedfordshire, Cambridge, Cirencester, Coventry and Belfast, will receive systems adapted for their use.

Buy British call upsets Japan team

By Clifford Webb

Foreign exhibitors taking part in Metcut 82 and Metal Working 82, Britain's biggest machinetool show for two years, were upset yesterday by the "Buy British" opening speech of Sir Francis Tombs, chairman of the machimetool industry's National Economic Development Council.

"The prosperity of Britain depends upon redeployment as quickly as possoble of the three million unemployed.

Replying to the opening speech at Birmingham's National Exhibition Centre, Mr Harold Hawkins, chairman fo the Metalforming Machinery Makers' Association, said that the exhibition was international and hoped that overseas exhibitors would inderstand the "Buy British" appeal

Mr J. L. D. (Pat) Gailey, president of the Machine Tool Trades Association (MGTA) (joint organizers of the show), said: "We have not had any formal complaints from overseas exhibitors but some of the home-grown variety have told us that it was about time somebody stood up and shouted for Britain." An eve-of-show call by Mr Kenneth Lane, director-general of the MTTA, for a 50 per cent surcharge on imports of Japanese numerically controlled machinery had already upset some of the Japanese exhibitors who felt there was a concerted anti-Japanese move by the MTTA.

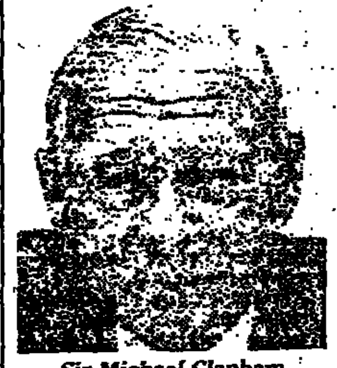
Three directors join ACC board

By Drew Johnston

Three directors have been appointed to the board of Associated Communications Corporation, the property and entertainments group where a bitter takeover battle is being fought between Mr Robert Holmes a Court's TVW Enterprises and the privately owned Heron Corporation.

The three are Sir Michael Clapham, Mr Michael Edwards and Mr George Preston. They replace the three directors who left the board earlier this week.

Two of these, Lord Matthews and Sir Leo Pliatzky, quit after, an unsuccessful attempt to remove Mr Holmes a Court as chairman.


Sir Michael Clapham

The third direcrtor, Sir Max Aitken, who was not party to the boardroom row, retired through ill-helath. the new men were selected for their posts through ACC's advisers, Standard Chartered Bank.

Sir Michael Clapham, aged 70, is a formner deputy chairman of ICI, and is also former chairman of the Birmingham Post and Mail. He is a substantial institutional shareholder in ACC with about 5 per cent of the equity.

Mr Edwards, 56, is a former managing director of BSC (International) and is provost of the City of London Polytechnic.

Mr George Preston, 73, a Bank of England official for 30 years, is a director of the London board of the Bank of New South Wales. He retired two years ago as a director ot Standard Chartered Bank.

All three have asked to waive their directors' fees until the future ownership of ACC is agreed by the company's shareholders.


Mr Michael Edwards

BSC to be efficiency guinea pig

By Our Industrial Editor

British Steel Corporation is to be the first nationalized body to be set strategic objectives under the Government's lastest plans for improving efficiency and performance in the state sector.

Talks between senior Whitehall officials and BSC executives on the organization's corporate plan up to 1984-85 have reached an advanced stage. Announcements on the corporate plan for the new financial year and on the strategic objectives are expected after the Easter recess.

BSC will be a model for other industries including British Shipbuilders, the Post Office and British Telecom.

After the appointment in 1980 of Mr Ian MacGregor chairman, broad strategic objectives were set, including the restoration of BSC to profitability, cost reductions, and the hiving of some of its activities to the private sector.

But formal agreement of the strategic objectivies have yet to be reached against the background of the measures outlined this month by Industry Secretary, Mr Patrick Jenkin.

Meanwhile, discussions on the 1982-83 corporate plan are continuing against the background of the revised assessment submitted by BSC following the effects of this year's severe winter and the move by the United States Administration to curb the level of European steel imports.

Mr MacGregor has been pressing for an external financing limit for next year £70m-£80m higher than the provisional ceiling of £350m set last autumn and confirmed this month in the public spending White Paper.

● Redpath Dorman Long International announced yesterday that it has signed an agreement with South Korea's Hyundai Engineering & Construction company to provide engineering services for the construction of a new cable-stayed bridge.

New appeal for governments to cut back

Disaster warning for shipping

By Michael Bailey, Shipping Correspondent

Shipping and shipbuilding are heading for their biggest disaster unless governments slow down further on shipyard output, world maritime leaders said in London yesterday.

About a third of the world's 320 million tonne tanker fleet is surplus to requirements and nearly a quarter of the 200 million onne dry bulk fleet, it was claimed.

Instead of the upturn next year which experts were confidently predicting in the late 1970s, equilibrium, is now unlikely to be reached before 1985 for bulk fleet and 1987 for tankers, partly because of the big volume of speculative orders placed in the mini boom of 1979.

With this huge volume of surplus tonnage overhanging the market freight rates are disastrously low. At present rates a big tanker can expect to lose £2m on a round trip between Europe and the Persian Gulf.


Ronald Ilian: warning over tanker-owning

In these circumstances the International Maritime Industries Forum (IMIF) representing shipping, shipbuilding, oil and banking interests, decided to renew their appeal to governments to cut down on shipyard subsidies and to back a fresh drive for accelerated scrapping of surplus ships.

The situation is so bad that some oil companies may have to consider pulling out of tanker owning, Mr Ronald Ilian, managing director of BP Tankers, said.

Oil companies' fleets were expensive because of their high safety standards and existed to protect oil companies against market fluctuation but now they were a cash drain with no prospects of improvement for years.

The forum concedes that with 30 million tonnes of shipyard capacity for little over 10 million tonnes demand it is not easy to stop governments supporting their shipyards on which many jobs depend.

Mr Jim Davis, the IMIF chairman, said: "The present policy of subsidies is not getting the world anywhere. Everybody does it, and nobody benefits. It just produces more ships that make the situation worse."

Upbeat tempo returns to Ferguson's one-man band

Growth after switch in direction

BSR, the West Midlands audio and electronic group, is now firmly re-established as a growth company. It has just announced 1981 profits of £4.5m, against a loss of £17.6m the previous year. The stock market is now tuning its expectations for 1982: the range seems to be £11m to £14m with a doubling of the 1p dividend paid this year (Sally White writes).

While the shares stayed around 78p yesterday against a high of 88p and a low of 26p — there were split reactions in the City. The absence of a rights issue brought relief, although with gearing at more than 80 per cent of

BSR TRADING PROFIT ANALYSIS

Division	1981 £m	1980 £m
Audio	nil	8.7 loss
Electronic	10.1	2.0
Housewares	0.8	nil
Industrial	0.7	0.3

shareholders funds, and interest payments net at £6.5m, the state of the balance sheet is less than pleasing.

But the fact that a leading contributor to last year's losses, the audio group, was only able to achieve break-even after losing £8.7m last year, brought some disappointment.

City hopes for the figures had already been downgraded because of worries about the audio side — demand for record players and changes in the main market of North America was known to be falling because of the recession there. The switch of emphasis to building a wider range of higher-technology products, restructuring the group, and other changes largely offset these fears.

Since Mr John Ferguson gave up his attempt to show that BSR basically his creation, was not a one man band, the group has been reorganizing so that substantially more is being spent on expanding manufacturing in the Far East.

There has been the now familiar West Midland story of closures and cutbacks: this is included in the £5.7m spent in closures last year. A couple of years ago Mr Ferguson decided to give up being a chairman of Associated Engineering to be able to tackle the slump in growth at BSR without distraction.

Last year the company committed itself to a decisive move away from the consumer products with which it had so long been identified. It bought out the remaining 46 per cent minority interest in Astec, a Hongkong-based manufacturer of power units for micro-computers.

That followed the purchase of Capetronics, which makes consumer electronics, but had the special appeal of being able to produce peripheral equipment such as monitors and printers. These two acquisitions were responsible for the increase in BSR's gearing.

As the analysis of trading profit shows the electronic side of the group is fuelling the recovery, the houseware, and industrial sides are still lagging. "As regards the housewares division, the board is hopeful for an improvement in profitability in 1982. In industrial division it is anticipated that this division will show a real improvement over 1981", BSR's statement says.


Ferguson: He tackled the slump without any distractions

Sales of audio equipment are still showing a slightly better trend in this country, Europe and Japan, but the remarks that are made about the increasing burden of rates and fuel costs, is creating guesses about more closures.

It would be optimistic to expect a similar improvement to that shown last year, BSR say.

The forecasts put the rating at between 14 and 17 times, which is still demanding.

OTT springs a surprise

Shipping shares took a temporary turn for the better on Ocean Transport and Trading figures: but a closer reading showed the profits owed a lot to property sales and currency items, rather than to any signs of an improvement in bulk shipping prospects. (Drew Johnston writes)

Ocean Transport and Trading yesterday surprised the City with pretax profit figures about £9m higher than expected at £33.4m against forecasts of around £26m for the year to December 1981. Last year's profits were £35.5m.

At the half-way stage, profits were only £12.5m and the company forecast the second half would be around the same.

Turnover was up from £594.5m to £672.7m, and trading profit moved ahead to £39.2m from £30.6m last time.

The share price rose 4p yesterday in reaction to the surprise, but the mood among analysts was unenthusiastic.

They attributed the unexpected £9m boost in profits to the weakness of sterling in the second half of 1981, property disposals and early repayment of outstanding loans. Ocean was more inclined to spread responsibility for the increase to other trade-related factors such as the best-ever contribution from Ocean Inchcape, the 60 per cent owned subsidiary, which services offshore oil rigs, and reduced costs in the liquified natural gas business.

But analysts fear that 1982 may see a standstill in profitability with the threat of upset in Ocean's Nigerian business in the wake of cuts in oil production there.

Another uninspiring sign was the fall in the share of profits from associates from £22.2m last time to £13.5m. Overseas Containers, which is 34 per cent owned, was particularly badly hit by dock strikes both at home and overseas.

Interest costs for the year rose only slightly from £19.4m to £19.7m as did the tax charge which increased from £8.3m to £9.3m.

Through dividends were unvocered in current cost terms, they were held at last year's level — 12.85p gross, which gives a gross dividend yield of 10.4 per cent. Another unattractive sign was that current cost earnings per stock unit fell from 14p to 4.8p.

No cheer from whisky

Amalgamated Distilled Products, headed by Mr James Gulliver, has swiftly shown benefits from last year's George Morton and North West Vintners, with its Liquorsave stores-within-stores, shopping spree, Margareta Pagano writes.

Nine-month figures to December released yesterday include their buoyant, first-quarter contributions. So pretax profits of £1m have been achieved on turnover of the enlarged group of £45.9m. This covers the half-year period to September when pretax profits were down to £95,000 compared with £116,000 in the previous period on sales up by £3.3m to £7.6m.

ADP's umbrella can be split into two divisions — Scotch whisky distilling, blending and bottling activities which bring in rum blending and bottling from Morton and liquor and tobacco retailing through the 300 Liquorsave stores operating within the Kwiksave supermarket group.

With the Scotch whisky trade still severely in the doldrums, the group's Glen Scotia distillery has been heavily losing money. Capacity was reduced drastically last summer but present production levels, helped by a strong export market, should see the distillery back to break-even this year. Operating margins remain under pressure. Nevertheless, the Morton rum activities, and bringing in extra whiskies have helped achieve a considerably higher usage factor at the distillery.

But it goes to show, with the losses reported by Tomatin earlier in the week, just how exceptional the profits made by Arthur Bell & Sons were.

Profits from the Liquorsave stores were ahead of last year and further savings should slip through in the full year as ADP manages to fully intregrate all its new activities and probably more to come. Shareholders receive a 50 per cent rise in the half-time dividend to 1.07p but the share's slipped 3p to 80p.

The newpapers' continued struggle to hold their profits is reflected in United Newspapers' figures. For 1981, the group, which publishes Punch, Yorkshire Post and other regional newspapers, reported pretax profits at £3.64m against £4.54m in 1980. The dividend stays at 12p after a final of 7.5p, and the shares closed down 2p at 173p to keep the yield in double figures, at 10 per cent. Earnings per share are down from 20.8p to 14.8p. The profit was after writing off £163,000 as bad debt, mainly a failed advertising agency. Also written off were costs of participating in a bid for North Sea exploration rights. In the year, £874,000 was invested in the new Yorkshire and Tyne Tees television companies.

INTERNATIONAL

NORWAY

Norway has cut its oil and gas revenue estimates for the next four years to Kr60,000m (£5,455m) from Kr170,000m (£15,454m) a year ago.

The cut is mainly due to the fall in prices and production of oil in the North Sea fields, Mr Rolf Presthus, the Finance Minister, told a local Conservative Party meeting in Oslo.

CANADA

The Canadian Federal Government could lose between $22,000m and $30,000m (£12,200m and £16,600m) in energy revenues in the next five years if the current oil glut triggers a fall in the world price, according to an Ottawa forecasting company.

● A Canadian Senate Committee has said all tariff and non-tariff barriers between Canada and the United States should be dismantled by the mid-1990's.

JAPAN

Construction orders received by 43 leading Japanese construction companies rose 21 per cent last month to a seasonally adjusted 810,810m yen (£1,851m) from an upwards-revised 670,290m yen in January, when they were down 18.4 per cent from December.

FRANCE

Sony France will build a second magnetic tape factory to meet growing demand. The factory which will cost Fr141m (£13m) will be built in Dax, near Bayonne, where Sony's first plant capable of producing 40 million audio cassette tapes a year has been in operation since October, 1980.

AUSTRALIA

Australian coal output and exports reached record levels in 1981. Output was estimated at 111.70 million tonnes, after 93.41 million in 1980, with production of salable coal at 91.90 million tonnes (76.30 million).

● Australia's only raw steel maker, The Broken Hill Company, said production in February was the lowest since 1980.

BELGIUM

Belgium's wholesale price index for February rose 0.7 per cent from January in a marked slowdown of producer price inflation. In January the comparative increases were 1.3 per cent in a month and 8.9 per cent in a year.

OVERSEAS COMPANIES

Henderson Land Development Company a Hongkong property concern floated last year reported interim earnings for the six months ended December 31 of $HK317.3m (about £30.2m) and an extraordinary gain of $HK48m (about £4.8m) lifting total profits for the six months to $HK365.34

International Business Machines Corp's subsidiary IBM United Kingdom had 1981 pretax profit of £161m up from £153m the previous year.

Sales for the year rose five per cent to £1000m. Turnover included £528m on sales and rentals to the United Kingdom

Volkswagen of America agreed to pay $25m (£13.85m) in settlement of a Federal suit alleging it had undervalued its imported Audi and Volkswagen cars between 1971 and 1975 and thereby reduced import duties.

Roussel-Uclaf, the French pharmaceutical group controlled by the Hoechst chemical group of West Germany, reported yesterday that its net consolidated profit rose 3 per cent last year to Fr136.3m (about £11.85m).

WALL STREET

New York, March 25 — Stocks closed with a solid gain although they were below their best levels of the session. A resumption of some mild profit-taking was evident.

The Dow Jones industrial average was up 4.29 points at 827.63, more than making up yesterday's decline. The index had pushed to a gain of seven points during the afternoon from a decline of a couple of points.

Advancing issues were about 8 to 5 ahead of losers.

Volume picked up in late trading, reaching 52.2 million shares compared with 49.3 million yesterday.

Word that the administration will talk with the Democrats on Capitol Hill about the budget acccounted for some of the market's firmness, analysts said.

	Mar 25	Mar 24
Allied Chem	33¼	33¾
Allied Stores	28⅛	28⅜
Allis Chalmers	13½	12⅞
Alcoa	24½	24⅝
Amax Inc	27¾	27⅛
Amerada Hess	17½	17⅜
Am Airlines	13⅝	13⅞
Am Brands	40⅛	39¾
Am Broadcast	32⅞	32½
Am Can	27¼	26⅝
Am Cyanamid	25⅞	26⅛
Am Elec Power	17¼	17¼
Am Home	34⅞	34¼
Am Motors	3⅝	3¾
Am Nat Res	32	32¼
Am Standard	26	26⅛
Am Telephone	57⅛	56⅝
AMF Inc	17½	17⅜
Armco Steel	20	20½
Asarco	20⅛	20½
Ashland Oil	21⅜	21⅜
Atlntic Richfield	38⅞	38⅝
Avco	14⅝	14½
Avon Products	24⅜	25
Bankers Tst NY	32⅛	32¼
Bank of America	18⅛	18¾
Bank of NY	38¼	39¼
Beatrice Foods	19½	19¼
Bendix	53	53
Bethlehem Steel	23⅝	23⅞
Boeing	18½	18⅝
Boise Cascade	29½	29
Borden	32⅞	31⅞
Borg Warner	23¼	23
Bristol Myers	54½	54½
BP	21⅛	21
Burlington Ind	19¼	19⅝
Burlington Nthn	45¼	45
Burroughs	33½	34⅛
Campbell Soup	34	34⅛
Canadian Pacific	24⅞	24⅝
Caterpillar	49½	49⅝
Celanese	51⅜	51½
Central Soya	10½	11⅛
Chase Manhat	56⅛	56¾
Chem Bank NY	50¾	51
Chrysler	4⅞	5
Citicorp	26½	26½
Cities Service	26¾	27½
Clark Equip	24	23⅞
Coca Cola	34	33½
Colgate	18	18⅛
CBS	40⅛	40¼
Columbia Gas	31½	30⅝
Combustion Eng	26¼	26½
Comwlth Edison	21	21
Cons Edison	35⅛	34⅞
Cons Foods	33⅜	32¾
Cons Power	17⅞	17⅜
Continental Grp	28⅞	28¼
Control Data	31½	32
Corning Glass	42¼	42¼
CPC Intnl	37	37⅜
Crane	24⅛	24⅛
Crocker Int	27½	27
Crown Zeller	24¼	24⅛
Dart & Kraft	50¼	51
Deere	31¼	31⅞
Delta Air	29⅝	29⅞
Detroit Edison	11½	11½
Disney	51⅞	52¼
Dow Chemical	24	24
Dresser Ind	24¼	24¼
Duke Power	22⅜	22⅞
Du Pont	33⅜	33⅛
Eastern Air	5⅞	5¾
Eastman Kodak	71¼	71⅜
Eaton Corp	29⅜	29⅛
El Paso Nat Gas	24¼	24⅛
Equitable Life	9½	9½
Esmark	48⅞	47¼
Evans P D	13	12⅞
Exxon Corp	27⅝	28⅛
Fed Dept Stores	41⅜	41⅛
Firestone	10⅝	10⅝
Fst Chicago	18¼	17½

	Mar 25	Mar 24
Fst Intrst Bncp	29⅜	29⅛
Fst Nat Boston	41½	41⅞
Fst Penn Corp	2½	2¾
Ford	21⅛	21¼
GAF Corp	13⅝	13¼
Gen Dynamics	24⅜	24⅜
Gen Electric	61⅛	61⅛
Gen Foods	34¼	33⅝
Gen Mills	38½	38⅝
Gen Motors	40⅝	41
Gen Pub Util NY	4⅛	4⅝
Gen Tel Elec	29⅜	29⅝
Gen Tire	19⅝	19¼
Genesco	4⅛	4⅛
Georgia Pacific	17⅞	17¼
Getty Oil	44	45⅝
Gillette	34⅞	34⅝
Goodrich	20	19½
Goodyear	21¼	21⅛
Gould Inc	23	23½
Grace	38¼	36⅞
Gt Atlic & Pacific	5⅜	5⅜
Greyhound	14½	14⅜
Grumman Corp	24¼	23⅝
Gulf Oil	32¼	32¼
Gulf & West	15	15
Heinz H J.	29¼	29⅞
Hercules	20⅛	20⅞
Honeywell	68⅛	67½
IC Inds	28⅛	28½
Ingersoll	48⅛	47¼
Inland Steel	21⅜	22⅛
IBM	59⅜	59½
Int Harvester	5⅝	5⅞
INCO	12½	12½
Int Paper	33½	33⅝
Int Tel Tel	25	24⅞
Irving Bank	41⅝	42⅝
Jewel Co	32⅝	32⅞
Jim Walter	17⅛	16⅝
Johnson & John	36⅝	36⅝
Kaiser Alumin	14⅛	14½
Kerr McGee	29¼	28⅞
Kimberly Clark	60¼	62
K Mart	18⅛	18½
Kroger	29¼	28⅛
L.T.V. Corp	14⅛	14⅜
Litton	46⅞	48¼
Lockheed	45⅛	48⅞
Lucky Stores	14⅛	14⅜
Manuf Hanover	31⅜	31⅜
Manville Cp	14⅛	14
Mapco	29⅜	27⅞
Marathon Oil	75⅝	75⅝
Marine Midland	22⅜	22½
Martin Marietta	27½	27⅞
McDonnell	34⅝	34⅛
Mead	20⅝	20¼
Merck	74	74⅞
Minnesota Mng	54½	54
Mobil Oil	22⅞	22⅞
Monsanto	65½	65⅞
Morgan J P	54⅛	54
Motorola	56½	56⅝
NCR Corp	42½	42⅞
NL Industries	26	25⅞
Nabisco	31⅜	31⅜
Nat Distillers	21¼	21⅛
Nat Med Ent	14	13⅝
Nat Steel	20½	19
Norfolk West	47⅛	47⅛
NW Bancorp	21	21⅜
Norton Simon	20⅝	20¼
Occidental Pet	20⅝	20½
Ogden	25⅜	25⅞
Olin Corp	19½	19
Owens-Illinois	24⅛	24⅛
Pacific Gas Elec	21⅛	21⅛
Pan Am	3⅛	3⅛
Penney J C	34½	34¼
Pennzoil	34⅛	34
Pepsico	35⅝	35⅞
Pfizer	51⅜	57⅞
Phelps Dodge	24⅛	24⅞
Philip Morris	48½	48⅝
Phillips Petrol	29	29⅛

	Mar 25	Mar 24
Polaroid	19⅛	19
PPG Ind	31⅛	32¼
Proctor Gamble	81⅜	81¼
Pub Ser El & Gas	19⅝	19⅝
Raytheon	32⅛	32⅛
RCA Corp	20⅛	20½
Republic Steel	21⅛	21⅛
Reynolds Ind	45½	45½
Reynolds Metal	19⅝	19⅝
Rockwell Int	27⅝	27⅛
Royal Dutch	32	32
Safeways	29⅛	29
St Regis Paper	25½	25
Santa Fe Ind	14½	14
SCM	24⅝	23⅞
Schlumberger	43⅝	44½
Scott Paper	16⅜	16⅜
Seagram	51⅜	52½
Sears Roebuck	18⅝	18⅝
Shell Oil	36½	35⅞
Shell Trans	26½	27⅞
Signal Co	21	20⅝
Singer	15⅛	14½
Sony	13⅝	13⅞
Sth Cal Edison	32⅝	32⅛
Southern Pacific	33⅛	34
Southern Rly	89	88⅛
Sperry Corp	28⅛	28
Std Oil Califnia	32	32⅛
Std Oil Indiana	37⅞	38⅛
Std Oil Ohio	33½	33⅜
Sterling Drug	24⅛	24⅛
Stevens J. P	10½	11⅛
Sun Comp	32⅜	32⅜
Teledyne	116	117⅛
Tenneco	27⅞	27⅞
Texaco	30⅛	30
Texas East Corp	44⅝	44⅛
Texas Inst	79⅛	80
Texas Utilities	21⅛	21⅝
Textron	22	21⅞
TWA	19⅛	20⅛
Travelers Corp	51⅛	50⅛
TRW Inc	48⅛	48⅛
UAL Inc	18⅝	18⅝
Union Carbide	47⅛	47
Union Oil Calif	30⅛	31
Un Pacific Corp	36⅝	36⅞
Uniroyal	7⅛	7¼
United Brands	9⅝	9⅝
US Industries	8⅝	8⅝
US Steel	24⅝	25⅛
Utd Technol	36¼	35⅞
Wachovia	24⅛	22⅞
Warner Lambert	22	22⅝
Wells Fargo	22⅞	22⅝
Westnghse Elec	24	23⅝
Weyerhauser	27⅞	27⅛
Whirlpool	26⅛	26⅛
Woolworth	17	17⅛
Xerox Corp	37⅞	37
Zenith	12⅛	12

Canadian Prices

	Mar 25	Mar 24
Abitibi	17½	17⅞
Alcan Alumin	23⅛	22⅞
Algoma Steel	33⅛	34⅛
Bell Telephone	18⅛	18⅛
Cominco	47½	47
Cons Bathurst	13⅝	13½
Gulf Oil	12⅝	12⅝
Hawker/Sid Can	10⅝	10⅞
Hudson Bay Mng	20	19½
Imasco	42⅝	42⅞
Imperial Oil	21⅛	21⅛
Int Pipe	17¼	15⅛
Mass-Ferguson	2⅝	2⅝
Royal Trust	13⅝	13⅝
Seagram	65⅝	63
Steel Co	25½	25⅝
Thomson N 'A'	22⅛	22⅛
Walker Hiram	15¼	15
WCT	14	14½

• Ex div. a Asked. c Ex distribution h Bid k Market closed n New issue p Stock split t Traded y Unquoted



BUSINESS NEWS/FOCUS AND COMMENT

PEOPLE

Julia is playing her part

Part-Time Careers (PTC), the diminutive, all-female firm which handles what its name suggests, has just reported a three-fold increase in business for the nine to February over the previous nine months' period.

According to PTC managing director Julia MacIndoe, the reason for this dramatic upturn is that employers are still reluctant to commit themselves to hiring full-timers, even though the recession appears to be slowing.

"This is especially true of many smaller but fast-growing professional and commercial companies who find that part-time employees give greater loyalty and productivity than their full-time colleagues, in addition to the obvious financial saving," says Mrs MacIndoe, 38, who is the only full-timer among London-based PTC':s fivestrong staff.

There is of course no sex bia and no upper age limit with Mrs MacIndoe is presently seeking work for a sprightly ex-Foreign Office secretary on the mature side of 80: "No, I haven't found her a position yet. But I shall. I enjoy the challenge."

● *If a sense of humour is a commercial asset, Lord Thomson of Monifieth will stand in good stead when he joins the board of the Royal Bank of Scotland Group on April 1, following several years as a director of one of the group's constituent banks. "A jokey*



character and a very bright boy indeed" is how Mr A. W. Barnes, former editor of The Dandy *remembers the future peer when, as plain George Thomson he was on the staff of the children's comic in the late 1930s. Although no hint of his Socialist beliefs were apparent in the office, his talent and ambition were. After three years he became chief sub-editor . . .*

Masterful Mortimer

At the height of the brouhaha over the future of the Council of Engineering Institutions (CEI), doubt existed about whether the organisation would need another chairman. Nevertheless, just voted into the chair is Gerald Mortimer, the mining engineer who was deputy chairman of Consolidated Gold Fields for almost 10 years to 1978 and who is, at 63, busy as a consultant.

The Government's new Engineering Council looks unlikely to take over for a couple of years any substantial *part of the functions* fulfilled by CEI. So Mortimer may well have a relatively quiet year of stewardship, and also see in as his successor . Dr Wilfred Eastwood, a structural engineer and consultant.

BSM tends its potato patch

Ever since its formation, the independent British School of Motoring (BSM) has been *what could be termed* a single-lane company. Now the outfit is gearing up for the first major diversification in its 72-year history.

The chosen route is fast food, which BSM in entering with a venture that rejoices in the neo-English name of Spud U Like, based on — *what else?* — the *baked*, stuffed potato.

Master-minding the move is David Acheson, managing director of BSM, which already runs three of the 16 Spud U Like *parlours* in Britain. This total should be almost doubled by the end of the year mainly through franchise growth, says Acheson, who spent 16 years with Wimpy and Kentucky Fried Chicken.

Nicholas Cole

NEW APPOINTMENTS

Mr Donald Wilson has been appointed managing director of Rank Xerox UK.

Mr R. N. Doidge-Harrison has been appointed director responsible for packaging and coil coatings of International Paint-Industrial Coatings. Mr C. D. Melia is director responsible for industrial paints and Mr D. Shaw is appointed manufacturing director.

Mr Ronald Heron has been appointed director of public affairs of the Davy Corporation.

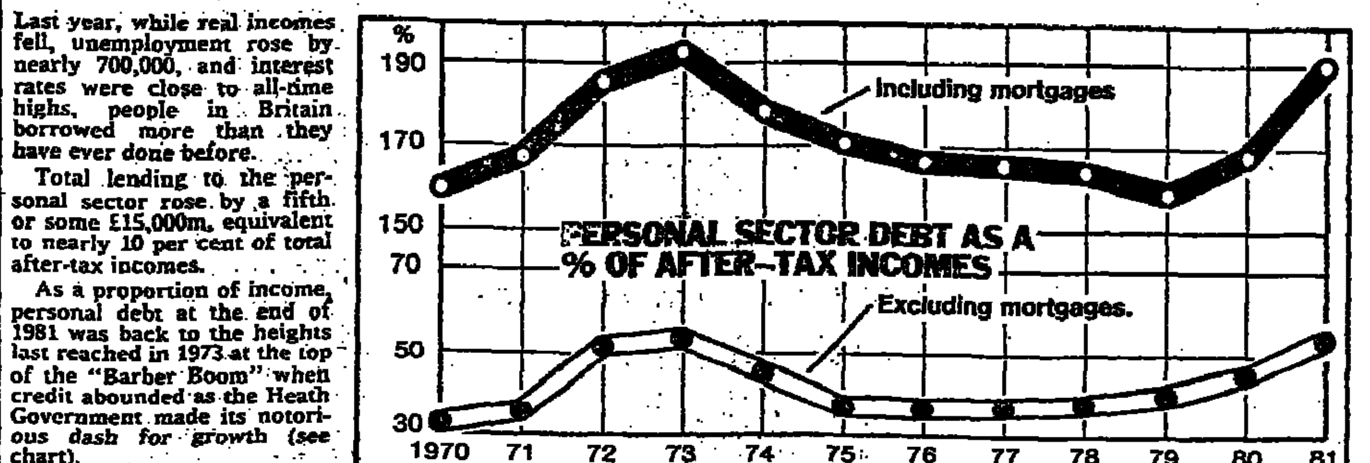
Frances Williams

Personal borrowing hits a peak despite the dole queues

Last year, while real incomes fell, unemployment rose by nearly 700,000, and interest rates were close to all-time highs, people in Britain borrowed more than they have ever done before.

Total lending to the personal sector rose by a fifth or some £15,000m, equivalent to nearly 10 per cent of total after-tax incomes.

As a proportion of income, personal debt at the end of 1981 was back to the heights last reached in 1973 at the top of the "Barber Boom" when credit abounded as the Heath Government made its notorious *dash for growth* (see chart).



Estimates by stockbrokers Laing and Cruickshank put personal debt outstanding last year at about 55 per cent of total after-tax incomes, excluding mortgages, and 190 per cent if loans for house purchase are included. At the *end of 1980 the corresponding* figures were 45 and 170 per cent.

But back in 1973 real incomes were soaring, unemployment was dropping and interest rates were several points below 1981 levels and barely positive in real terms, bearing in mind expected inflation.

Last year's remarkable surge in consumer borrowing helped the government. It enabled people to maintain their spending in the face of *falling real incomes*, so preventing the recession from being even deeper. The savings ratio — the proportion of after-tax income saved (or, to be precise, not spent) — fell to below 14 per cent from a record 17 per cent in the third quarter of 1980.

The government is hoping for another fall in the savings ratio this year to offset the impact of a further drop in people's real incomes on consumer spending.

On the other hand the Treasury seems to want this fall in the savings ratio to come about through a reduction in personal savings rather than an increase in borrowing.

The fall last year in the savings ratio would have been far larger if people had not saved more as well as borrowed more. The ratio of liquid assets to personal after-tax income, for example, is the highest for several years.

The problem with extra borrowing is that it has helped to drive a coach and horses through the government's monetary growth targets in particular by swelling the volume of bank lending. Further, to the *extent that* monetary targets are being adhered to, a *high* level of personal borrowing is likely to keep *interest rates higher than they would* otherwise have been. This, ministers fear, could inhibit borrowing by companies necessary to fuel industrial recovery from recession by *financing stocks and investment*.

These fears should be put *in perspective*. Bank lending to the personal sector (which includes unincorporated *businesses) has indeed been* the most rapidly growing segment of their business, and mortgage lending — which amounted to two-thirds of personal lending in the three months to February — has shown the biggest rise of all. Yet the personal sector as a whole still accounts for only a fifth of all sterling bank lending.

In addition, traditional *lenders to consumers* — hire purchase firms, finance houses and retailers — have *been losing business to the* banks. So of course have the building societies.

Bank lending is an important component of sterling M3 which was, until the budget, the government's main target measure of money supply. So the banks' increased share in consumer lending was a factor, though not the only one, in that target persistently overshooting. But from now on the government is adopting targets for both narrower and *broader measures of money*. The broad measure includes virtually every financial institution including building societies.

So who actually does the lending should matter less in future, even if the total amount is still of concern.

What then is likely to happen to the total in the coming year? Predictions tend to be based on three principal *hypotheses*.

The first is known as the "permanent income hypothesis"— When people's real *incomes change, either up or down, it* takes a while for them to adjust to new living standards. In addition, people are naturally more reluctant to take a cut in living standards than to increase them. So when incomes fall they try to maintain their original standards as long as *possible* by *dipping into* savings or borrowing. This will be especially true if they think the fall in income is likely to be only temporary.

Over the three years 1977 to 1980 real after-tax incomes rose by nearly 20 per cent, while national output went up by just 2½ per cent. By *1981 people had got used to* the idea of rapidly rising living standards.

When, at the *start* of 1981, real incomes began to fall, three things happened. First, people kept on borrowing to finance an expected increase in living standards which their incomes no longer justified, so debt ratios rose. Second, people could not easily run down existing bebt *which had been built up* steadily over the three preceding years. Third, the overall borrowing pattern disguised a growing dichotomy between the experience of different households.

The top 25 per cent of income earners suffered a fall in real incomes from last spring, *rather later than* others. They are also in general the heaviest borrowers and the ones who rely most on bank lending. A big increase in their borrowing has greatly outweighed reduced borrowing by many other households. Hire purchase and mail order credit, *used more by lower income* groups, for instance, has fallen sharply over the same period.

The fall in overall real after-tax incomes is anyway *in large part due to the rising* number of unemployed. Those in work have not suffered much loss of real income so far and many are better off than ever. Thus retrenchment by those now jobless (who may also be drawing on savings to keep up living standards) may have been *disguised by borrowing* by those in work.

Laing and Cruickshank believe that "at current levels (of debt) consumers are over-geared, over-extended and *over-bought*". They expect borrowing to fall away this year as real incomes continue to drop and households decide not to renew loans when they fall due or borrow any more.

SAVING AND BORROWING

		real personal disposable income % change from year earlier	savings ratio (savings as % of pdi†)	liquid assets as % of pdi†	outstanding debt as % of pdi† excluding mortgages	outstanding debt as % of pdi† including mortgages
1980	Q1	2.5	14.1	2.51	41.3	164.2
	Q2	1.2	15.9	2.54	42.5	162.1
	Q3	3.1	16.9	2.52	41.3	163.1
	Q4	−0.9	16.4	2.59	45.2	168.9
1981	Q1	0.4	15.3	2.66	47.8	175.3
	Q2	−1.6	13.7	2.71	50.7	182.7
	Q3	−3.0	14.3	2.72	52.5	183.3
	Q4	na	na	na	54.8*	191.4*

†pdi = personal disposable (after-tax) income Real pdi is pdi adusted for inflation.
*estimate
Sources: Economic Trends, Messels, Laing and Cruickshank

This would take pressure off the money supply — but it could also keep the savings ratio up and depress consumption unless households decide to dip into savings to a *greater extent than they have* done so far. The government by implication suggests that they will.

It takes this view partly because it expects house*holds to continue to try to* maintain living standards, and partly because of the so-called "wealth effect". This hypothesis suggests that people have in mind a target level of real wealth they wish to hold — for security, for emergencies, for retirement and so on. If inflation slows, *as the government expects*, people need save less to maintain their savings' real value. According to the Treasury model a fall of 1 per cent in inflation will lead to a rise of 0.2 per cent in consumer spending in the first year.

Against this stockbrokers Messels take *a more straight*forward view of what influences savings. They think savings are encouraged by high interests rates, as the elevated level of savings last year suggests. And they expect real interest rates to stay high this year (though nominal rates may come *down with inflation), keeping* the savings ratio up.

Messels also believe that, contrary to appearances, high interest rates do discourage borrowing. In*creased* borrowing last year was, they suggest, partly because of the huge prior increase in real incomes and partly because of aggressive marketing tactics by the banks. These factors may not persist into this year.

Messels point out that older and more affluent households tend to be net savers while younger poorer ones are net borrowers. The *pattern in 1982 could be for* those with money to keep their savings high to take advantage of the interest to be earned, while the young are forced to cut back on borrowing.

It is the growing gulf between the haves and have-nots which could well hold the key to what is likely to happen to saving and borrowing over the coming year. With Sir Geoffrey Howe's budget again favouring the affluent, the clever money should perhaps be on a repeat of last year: more money borrowed outweighing more money saved; and stable consumption disguising rising living standards for the lucky and falls for the rest.

Planning the demise of the filing cabinet

TECHNOLOGY: VIDEODISCS

By Clive Cookson

Launching videodiscs on to the consumer market is proving an expensive and frustrating business for Philips, the Dutch electronics giant.

Sales of discs and players in North America, where the LaserVision system has been available for nearly three years, *have been very disappointing*, while the British launch has been postponed progressively because of manufacturing problems at Philips's disc factory in Lancashire — the latest target date is May.

But Philips could still make a fortune out of the technology on which LaserVision is based, even if the system flops on the consumer market. For the greatest potential of laser recording probably lies not in *the home but in the office*, where it seems likely to become the most compact and cheapest technique for storing vast quantities of information, including computer data and written documents.

The Philips Research Laboratories in Eindhoven have already produced an experimental electronic archive, called Megadoc, which can record and store the contents of 1.5m A4 pages within the space of a normal office *desk. The equivalent amount* of paper would fill a row of filing cabinets 60 metres long.

A week ago Philips announced a joint venture *with Control Data*, the American computer company, to do more work on laser *recording systems. The part*nership will run two labs: the "optical media laboratory" *managed by* Philips at Eindhoven will concentrate on the discs themselves, *while* the "optical peripherals laboratory" run by Control Data in Colorado Springs will develop the machines to record and play back the discs.

The two companies are looking for short-term returns. A Philips spokesman said the aim was to put a commercial system on to the business market within two years.

Many other companies are also racing to apply laser recording to mass information storage. Indeed the line-up is longer than in the consumer videodisc market.

Another notable partnership involves Thomson-CSF *of France with* Xerox of the United States. They have been teamed up since 1980 *and also aim to* launch a commercial product within two years. Toshiba and Matsushita of Japan and RCA of the United States are among the other companies *known to* be developing optical storage systems.

All the systems depend on *a laser with an extremely fine* beam (about one thousandth of a millimetre in diameter) *flashing off* and on for one ten-millionth of a second of less. The intense light "burns" microscopic marks along a spiral track on the disc's sensitive recording medium, and the pattern of marks stores the information in the binary code (on and off) used by computers.

However there are major differences between the sensitive media used by the rival companies. The Philips recorder burns holes into a line layer of the rare metal tellurium. The play-back machine also has a (less *powerful*) laser, which reads out the information as the difference in reflection between the holes and the flat metallic surface.

On the other hand Thomson-CSF uses a sensitive polymer which decomposes to a gas under laser illumination. The gas pushes upward against a metallic surface to create a tiny bubble or blister, instead of a hole.

Supporters of the bubble technique claim that it can give a more permanent record than the burning of holes. Its metal layer is not affected directly by the laser and can have a high melting point; it is therefore inherently more stable than reactive low-melting materials like tellurium. The latter have to be sealed very carefully within a glass sandwich to prevent moisture getting in and *ruining* the tellurium.

None of the laser systems now in the *final phases* of development have erasable discs; they record the infor*mation permanently* like a photograph. That is a major difference from the magnetic discs and tapes that can be re-used over and over again.

Although inability to erase may sound like a drawback, the permanence of optical storage will be an advantage in many potential applications. In place of erasability, the user gains what Americans call archivability. *Information* stored on an optical disc will be regarded as a permanent legal record, like ink on paper and unlike magnetic discs or tape which can easily be altered.

Optical storage will be the decade's biggest single development in office technology, according to Mr Victor Poor, vice-president *for research* and development at Datapoint, the American business *systems company*. He speaks with relative impartiality, since his firm is not developing a laser disc system (although it will certainly buy in the technology to incorporate in Datapoint *products*).

The real significance, in Mr Poor's view, is that laser *discs* are the first electronic storage system that does away with the need to keep office files. He believes that optical storage will work out at about one twentieth of the cost of typewritten paper.

Philips's Megadoc, an experimental application of laser recording, shows how a company could put *all* its written documents on to optical discs and throw away *the paper*. It features a reader that can scan an A4 page within a second, trans*forming* the information into about four million electronic bits. A transfer memory, with an input and output rate of four million bits per second, holds the information temporarily before it is fed to the laser recorder which makes the discs.

The laser player reads back the documents on to a flicker-free 2400-line display *screen. Fine details*, including handwriting and pictures, are reproduced "without a *single* detail being lost," Philips says. Of course a hard copy can be printed out if an old-fashioned paper addict wants one.

If Megadoc is used to store *information* from paper documents, each disc — about the size of a long-playing record — can hold 25,000 pages. Its capacity to store information generated elec*tronically on a word pro*cessor is far greater and a single disc can then hold up to 500,000 pages.

According to the Philips scenario, the secretary of the future will open the morning post and put everything immediately on an optical disc with the document reader — throwing away the paper. (This is in the medium-term, before society is completely electronic, when many individuals amd some organisations will still be sending letters on paper.

At the same time the secretary will transmit an electronic copy of each addressee's mail to his or her display screen. After the executive has read a letter, it *is given a number of key*words which are stored in the Megadoc database and which correspond to its address in the archive (for example groove 1901, sector 5, disc 180).

If the recipient wants to call up a particular letter a few months or years later, he types in the keywords, which should enable the system to trace the document within five seconds.

The Philips Megadoc system—25,000 pages on one disc

Business Editor

Sounding a note of caution

To the extent that one can detect an independent Bank of England view on econ*omic prospects this year* — and it is harder than usual in the latest edition of the *Quarterly Bulletin* — it is probably rather more cautious than that of the Treasury.

(The Treasury, of course, has been forecasting a rise in GDP this year of 1½ per cent.)

Perhaps the Bank's caution is based largely on a perfectly legitimate uncertainty about how the world economy is going to shape *up, together with a certain* amount of puzzlement about the behaviour of certain aspects of the British economy.

As far as Britain specifically is concerned, the Bank finds it difficult to explain on conventional criteria the extent of the rise in import *penetration over the past* two years. But it is clearly a factor that worries it; and in a similar way there is concern to emphasize that an apparently encouraging performance on the export front over the last year looks decidedly less impressive when put in a two-year context.

Elsewhere, the Bank obviously feels uncertain as to whether the personal sector savings ratio will fall sufficiently to offset the impact of lower real disposable incomes on consumer spending; and it would seem to have doubts too as to just *how strong the swing in the* stock cycle will prove.

But if the Bank feels uncertain as to just how steady a recovery we are likely to see this year, it clearly feels fairly resigned to seeing growth in private sector (and particularly industrial and commercial) loan demand remaining at a relatively high level.

North Sea oil Bank's view

Is de-industrialization a necessary consequence of North Sea oil? Yes, says John Kay of the Institute for Fiscal Studies who, with Peter Forsyth, has argued that the relative share of manufacturing mus contract because we no longer *need to export manufac*tures to pay for oil imports. A high exchange rate is then the painful but inevitable means of bringing this about.

No, says the Bank of England, which has followed up its riposte to Kay and Forsyth in the Governor's Ashridge Lecture nearly 18 months ago with a detailed article in the *Quarterly Bulletin.*

What North Sea oil has done, says the Bank, is to insulate us in large part from the need to adjust our economy in the face of successive hikes in oil prices. Britain will not have to de-industrialize argues the Bank. Other countries would have to devote more resources to manufacturing to pay for their more costly oil imports. This was an adjustment which Britain had been spared.

As for the exchange rate, this has been influenced more by relatively high British interest rates and Opec members' desire to hold sterling assets than by oil, the Bank suggests.

The Bank rather weakly ducks spelling out a view on how North Sea oil should be handled, except to agree that there should be more investment. But it concedes, governments have not yet found an effective way of making the investment they want happen.

System X Export drive

Britain's lost its significant presence in the world market for telephone switching equipment in the early 1960s. This country's three main manufacturers, GEC, Plessey and STC, continued to churn out old-fashioned electromechanical exchanges — very profitably — for the Post Office (now British Telecom) but they ceased to be competitive internationally.

Now Britain again has an exchange, the electronic System X, which has the *performance potential* to sell abroad. The trouble is that it has not actually won *any* exports; and that is three years after British Telecom and the three manufacturers set up a joint company, British Telecommunications Systems (BTS), to market System X overseas.

Ministers and officials at the Department of *Industry*, who are rightly concerned to see a return on the £200m of public funds that have been spent on System X's development, have lost patience with the BTS partners. They believe that the companies have not put sufficient marketing muscle behind System X, and they are planning to give the exporting arrangements a shake-up.

The Government is putting pressure on the manufacturers either to commit themselves to a more vigorous campaign on behalf of System X or to drop out of BTS.

The ideal arrangement might be for two companies to drop out, leaving just one to concentrate on selling System X throughout the world with British Telecom's assistance. Then *there would be* an outside chance of achieving the current BTS target of winning £100m worth of orders a year — 10 per cent of the available world market for telephone switching equipment (excluding countries that are open only to domestic *suppliers).*

Lucas Shadows still

Lucas Industries is turning round more slowly than a windmill on a calm summer day. In 1980/81 when the group lost £21.4m and cut back its British workforce by more than 10,000, the story was a slump in demand for vehicle components *which cost Lucas* £45.3m.

Now the sorry tale has been carried over to the aerospace side which has been hit by the planned ending of the Lockeed Tristar programme in 1984 and the reduced role for the Tornado multi-combat aircraft. A *further 1,600* employees will lose their jobs, mainly at the Burnley *plants.*

Much of the agony could have been avoided had the Lucas management acted to reduce the range of components sold to motor manufacturers earlier.

Meanwhile profits for the six months to January 31 were pretty much in line *with market* expectations at £7.02m pre-tax, against a loss of £26.09m for the comparable period and a £4m profit in the second of 1980/81.

The troubles on the aerospace *side plus a con*tinued lack of demand for vehicls components, where the Japanese have held their price advantage, had already force analysts to lower their forecasts for the full year to around £30m. Further revisions yesterday suggest a profit of £25m, a long way from the *£76.8m* pre-tax achieved in 1977. The interim dividend of 2.6p has been maintained but is not covered by earnings.

At 196p, down 1p yesterday after the 11p fall on Wednesday, the shares are not taking the recovery on trust.

BEMROSE

Success package at Derby

Bemrose Corporation, the Derby-based printing and packaging group, made a strong profits recovery in the year to January 2. Pretax profits increased from £338,000 to £2.37m, on turnover only marginally up at £49.3m, against £48m last time.

At the trading level, profits rose to £3.2m against £1.69m, but interest costs on substantially reduced borrowings — down to 34 per cent from 50 per cent of shareholders' funds — fell from £1.3m to £831,000. Perhaps the most dramatic indicator of recovery was the increase in earnings per share — up from 2.2p to 19.23p. The tax charge also increased from £77,000 to £200,000.

Recovery was also reflected in the current cost pretax profits which turned round from a loss of £1.5m to a profit of £1.38m. This was fully appreciated by the stock market where the share price moved up 20 per cent, or 12p, to 72p.

The company's directors said yesterday that the profits increase was led through raising efficiency and productivity, and reducing costs.

The flexible packaging and transfer prints division, which streamlined its operations in 1980, made a strong comeback in the year, said Mr David Wiggleworth, chief executive. Overall performance was helped by bringing the lossmaking book publishing activities to an end. Losses from this division were £900,000 in 1980.

Capital expenditure, which was restricted during the last 18 months, is being restored on a selective basis, with priority being given to new technology, higher efficiency and the creation of new products for growth markets, especially in the security printing business, he said.

The dividend has been increased to 3.57p gross against last year's 2.14p total.

Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank	13%
Barclays	13%
BCCI	13%
Consolidated Crds.	13½%
C. Hoare & Co	*13%
Lloyds Bank	13%
Midland Bank	13%
Nat Westminster	13%
TSB	13%
Williams & Glyn's	13%

* 7 day deposits on sums of under £10,000 10½%, £10,000 up to £50,000 11¼%, £50,000 and over 11½%

THOMAS TILLING

£28m expansion

Thomas Tilling, the industrial holding company with a range from insurance to construction, has further expanded its United States interests with two acquistitions at a total cost of £28m.

The group is acquiring Alpha Metals of New Jersey, a specialist manufacturer of solders, flukes and cleaners, and H and S Supply, which distributes pipes and related equipment to the Phosphate industry in Florida.

To finance the acquisitions, 20.39m Tilling ordinary shares were placed at 138p. News of the acquisitions clipped 6p from the Tilling share price to 146p.

These are the latest in a series of United States acquisitions which have amounted to more than $500m in the last four years as the company aims to achieve up to 40 per cent of its turnover from America.

In the year to December the group as a whole managed only a 4 per cent rise in pretax profits to £73.6m but the proportion of this total coming from the United States almost doubled from 28.9 per cent to 52.3 per cent.

H and S produced pretax profits of $3.5m in the year to May on sales of $27.6m, and its adjusted net asset value at end-January was approximately $8.5m.

Alpha's operations extend throughout the United States and internationally through European subsidiaries. Sales in 1981 were $68.3 with pretax profits of $7.4m. Net asset value of the group at the year end was $26.2m.

BERNARD MATTHEWS

Profits slump

Bernard Matthews lost nearly £1m on whole turkey sales last year because of a weak Christmas market due mainly to subsidized French imports.

This sent pretax profits plunging to £1.62m in the year to January 3 compared with £4.7m last time, despite turnover ahead by £10m to £53.5m.

Problems caused by cheaper French imports were aggravated by an inability to recover increased costs from prices on turkey meat products. Another £1m loss is blamed on the claim for compensation of the allegedly defective feed raw material which the group is now pursuing through arbitration.

But Mr Bernard Matthews, chairman, says the outlook is more encouraging.

There is a ban on turkey imports because of disease in Europe which is expected to last at least a year. This should ease the problems for this year's Christmas sales.

Workers at the turkey plants are still on strike after rejecting on Wednesday the latest pay offer in a secret ballot. Mr Matthews says half the workers have returned to work but is unable to gauge the short-term effects of the strike.

Borrowings at the year end peaked at £10m against £7.5m last time, which is reflected in interest charges up to £1.3m against £878,000.

The group, which sees 1982 as a year of consolidation and pushing ahead with its advanced meat technology, is holding the final dividend at 3.39p gross, making a total payment of 6.24p. The shares slipped 5p to 100p.

Bernard Matthews: weak Christmas market cost £1m

FAIRVIEW ESTATES

Small rise

Fairview Estates managed a slight rise in pretax profits from £2.7m to £2.83m in the six months to December, with the half-year dividend raised by 5 per cent to 1.89p.

Mr Dennis Cope, chairman, said good progress was being made in creating a balance between industrial and other investment properties through the development of office and retail investments. The conpany's contracted rent roll now totals £3.9m.

The housing business has improved after a poor winter, but it is too soon to tell if the recent reduction in interest rates will consolidate this improved market into a base for further growth, Mr Cope said.

Turnover for the half year rose from £11.74m to £14.78m and stated earnings per 50p share increased from 4.1p to 7.1p. Fariview shares rose 1p to 09p where they stand at a 36.7 per cent discount to net assets of 149p per share.

GARTON ENG.

Bolts problems

Garton Engineering has followed the path of other West Midlands components companies and plunged into the red in the year to December.

Garton, a nuts and bolts manufacturer, lost £334,000 compared with pretax profits of £125,000 last time. Turnover in the period slumped by £1.24m. The final dividend is passed, as was the half-year payment, when losses were £206,000.

Most of the problems lie in the group's bolts operations which now provide 40 per cent of sales. Restructuring has not proved sufficient to see activities return to profits..

Other concerns are profitable but Mr Aubrey Garton, chairman and managing director, is not able to forecast when the group will return to profits.

The workforce has been cut by half to 500 over the last two years but Garton is sure that any recovery in demand can be met.

M. J. H. Nightingale & Co. Limited

27/28 Loval Lane London EC3R 8EB Telephone 01-621 1212

The Over-the-Counter Market

1981/82 High	Low	Company	Price	Ch'ge	Gross Div (p)	Yld %	P/E Actual	P/E Fully Taxed
129	100	Ass Brit Ind CULS	129	—	10.0	7.8	—	—
75	62	Airsprung Group	73	–	4.7	6.4	11.6	16.0
51	33	Armitage & Rhodes	45	–	4.3	9.6	3.8	8.5
205	187	Bardon Hill	200	—	9.7	4.9	9.7	11.8
107	100	CCL 11% Conv Pref	107	—	15.7	14.7	—	..
104	63	Deborah Services	63	—	6.0	9.5	3.1	5.9
131	97	Frank Horsell	127	—	6.4	5.0	11.4	23.5
83	39	Frederick Parker	78xd	—	6.4	8.2	4.0	7.6
78	46	George Blair	54	—	—	—	—	—
102	93	Ind Prec Castings	97	—	7.3	7.5	7.0	10.5
109	100	Isis Conv Pref	109	—	15.7	14.4	—	—
113	94	Jackson Group	97	—	7.0	7.2	3.1	6.9
130	108	James Burrough	116	—	8.7	7.5	8.5	10.6
334	248	Robert Jenkins	252	—	31.3	12.4	3.5	8.9
64	51	Scruttons "A"	64	—	5.3	8.3	9.8	9.1
222	159	Torday & Carlisle	159	—	10.7	6.7	5.1	9.5
15	10	Twinlock Ord	14	—	—	-	—	—
80	66	Twinlock 15% ULS	79½	—	15.0	18.9	—	—
44	25	Unilock Holdings	25	—	3.0	12.0	4.5	7.6
103	73	Walter Alexander	79	—	6.4	8.1	5.2	9.2
263	212	W. S. Yeates	231	—	14.5	6.3	6.0	12.1

Prices now available on Prestel page 48146

CAPITAL MARKETS

In its main annual fund raising operation, the *Kingdom of Spain* has come to the market for $450m (£250m). The mandate has been awarded to Lloyds Bank International.

The loan is in two tranches. The first is for $150m over eitht years carrying a margin of 15 basis points over the United States prime rate for the first four years, and 25 points over prime for the last four years.

On the other $300m, which is for 10 years, Spain will have to pay ⅜ per cent over the London Interbank Offered Rate for five years and ½ per cent over Libor for the remainder of the maturity.

Lloyds will be lead manager and will be joined in managing the loan by nine other banks. The credit carries a commitment fee of ½ per cent for both tranches. The loan is one of the biggest seen on the Euromarket so far this year.

In 1981 Spain borrowed $500m, but the terms then were ⅜ per cent over Libor for the first six years followed by ½ per cent for the last two years. There was also the choice of paying ¼ per cent over United States prime for the whole duration of the credit.

AIM GROUP

Oversubscribed

County Bank's offer for sale of 4m shares at 140p in AIM Group, which makes aircraft interiors was nearly four and a half times oversubscribed.

Employees will get all the shares they applied for. Those who wanted up to 1,000 shares will get 50 per cent, applicants for between 1,500 and 2,000 shares will get 500 and applications over 2,500 will get 20 per cent up to a 195,000 ceiling.

Dealings should start on April 1.

CAMBRIDGE ELEC

Comfortably off

Cambridge Electronic Industries, the specialized group of 20 companies sold by Philips last year, comfortably exceeded its own forecasts despite pretax profits slipping from £6.24m to £5.91m in the year to December.

Sales were down from £82.9m to £76.83m, but the dividend for the year amounts to 5.71p gross, with a 3.9p final, against the forecast total of 5.28p.

The improvement on forecast profits of £5m pretax was achieved largely by an aggressive reduction of costs, which has involved the shedding of some 7.5 per cent of the workforce, and strict control of cash resources.

"We are modestly pleased with the 1981 results and look ahead with considerable confidence to the future", Mr Rupert Jones, chairman, said.

Both sales and trading profits were below 1980 levels in the electronic and electrical components sector, as a result of the recession, but held up in the defence and electronic systems despite uncertainties caused by cuts.

In the specialist engineering sector 1981 was a period of consolidation, with the performance holding up well in difficult trading, the directors say. The first quarter of the present year has not seen any great change in the level of orders,

Earnings per share rose from 8.5p to 10.1p. On a fully taxed basis the figure is 7.2p per share against the forecast 6.1p.

STANDARD SEC

Shares placed

Standard Securities, the private property investment and development group headed by Mr Gerald Leigh, has placed 2.2m of its ordinary shares — 20 per cent of the issued capital — through Hambros Bank at 136p per share.

This will raise approximately £1.7m of new equity for the company. An application for listing on the Stock Exchange will be made and the company expects dealings to begin on April 1. Standard says shares are available to the public.

Net assets after the placing will amount to about £21.7m, or 188p a share before conversion of £3.5m of 7¼ per cent convertible unsecured loan stock 1993, subscribed for at par last December by Royal Insurance. The placing price is at a 25 per cent discount on fully diluted net assets a share of 182p.

The directors have forecast a pretax profit for the year to September 1982 of not less than £500,000 and a gross dividend per share of 2p around January 1983

TRICENTROL

Hard-taxed

Tricentrol's net income fell for the second quarter running in the three months to December 31, leaving net income for the whole of 1981 down from £17.7m to £14.4m.

Although production from the North Sea Thistle Field, where Tricentrol has a 9.65 per cent stake, moved up in the final quarter and United Kingdom operating income was up from £7.2m in the third quarter to £12.4m in the fourth, Tricentrol has been hard hit by North Sea taxes and profitability in North America has also slipped.

Including £11.7m of supplementary petroleum duty, Tricentrol provided for a total of £30.7m of taxes in 1981 compared with £23.4m the year before. Tricentrol said yesterday that development of the North Thistle area, containing more than 100m recoverable barrels, was not encouraged by development costs and taxes. Mr James Longcroft, chairman, said that the recent budget would reduce taxes on the Thistle Field—producing at 130,000 barrels a day—by only about £10m over the life of the field.

Tricentrol has been stepping-up exploration in North America and is still interested in a United States acquisition. Capital spending in Canada and the United States is planned to rise by nearly a third in 1892 to £33m.

Fourth quarter income from the US, however, fell off sharply to £189,000 from £949,000 in the previous quarter

The group is maintaining its dividend at 12p gross.

Last year the company demerged its non-oil and gas subsidiaries into a separate company, Combined Technologies Corporation. Earlier this month Tricentrol launched a rival bid for CCP North Sea, the small exploration company in which Cluff Oil holds just under 30 per cent. The other bidder is Charterhouse Petroleum.

METAL CLOSURES

Payout raised

Metal Closures, the West Midlands metal and plastics packaging group, increased profits last year despite the depressed state of the packaging industry.

Pretax profits rose to £4.3m from £3.8m in the year to December on sales £1.7m higher at £67.35m. The final dividend is being lifted to 5p gross, making a total payment of 8.14p gross against 7.71p.

Last year the group closed its Port Talbot factory with the loss of 110 jobs and over the last two years the workforce has been cut to 2,230 with 660 redundancies.

Profits retained were up at £2.5m compared with £1.8m and earnings per share were 18.3p, against 16.9p.

LATEST RESULTS

Company Int or Fin	Sales £m	Profits £m	Earnings per share	Div pence	Pay date	Year's total
Amal.Distilled (I)	7.68(4.34)	0 095(0 11)	1.26(1 33)	0 75(0.5)	—	—(1.0)
Auto. Security (F)	17.58(13.6)	2 34(1 88)	11 95(9 72)	0.8(0.7b)	—	1 4b(1.2b)
Banro (F)	21.1(19.85)	0 72(0 9)	7.6(15 2)	2.7(2.4)	—	(3.3(2)
B B A Group (F)	1.306(135 4)	3 55(0 85)	1 54(0 89a)	0 9(0.9)	—	1 7(1.7)
Bemrose (F)	49.38(48)	2.37(0 338)	19.23(2.22)	2.5(1.5)	—	4(1.5)
B S R (F)	204.6(141.3)	4.47(17.6a)	3.41(14.6a)	0.5(—)	—	1 0(—)
Cambridge Elect. (F)	76.8(82.9)	5 91(6.24)	10 1(8.5)	2 75(—)	4/5	4 0(—)
Friedland Doggart (F)	—(—)	2.1(0.4.8)	13.4(18.91)	3.1(2.8)	—	5 1(4 7)
Fairview Ests. (I)	14.78(11.7)	2.83(2.7)	7 0(4.1)	1 3(1.2)	7/5	—(4 55)
Findhorn Fin. (I)	0.92(0.81)	0 12(0 12)	16.7(16.8)	6.5(6)	—	—(—)
Garton Eng. (F)	9.7(10.98)	0.33a(0.12)	7.85a(3 22)	—(0 9)	—	—(4 15)
Leyland Paint (F)	39.6(38.85)	0.42(0.42)	2 2(4.8)	0.75(1)	5/7	1.5(1)
Lucas Inds. (I)	601(543)	7.02(26a)	1 94(33.9a	2 6(2.6)	17/5	—(11.0)
Manders (F)	34.89(34.87)	4 01(3.37)	15.6(13.57)	4(3 5)	—	5 4(4 8)
B. Matthews (F)	53 51(43.69)	1 62(4.75)	11 7(24 6)	3 3(3 3)	—	4.3(4.3)
Mixconcrete (F)	42.89(45.47)	0.05(1.6)	1 9(9.26)	2.5(2.5	—	4:05(4 05)
Noble & Lund (F)	1.56(1.7)	0.035a(0.082)	0 98a(3 08)	—(0 78)	—	—(0.78)
Metal Closures (F)	67.3(65.6)	4.3(3.8)	18 3(16.9)	3.5(3 2)	17/5	5 7(5 4)
Ocean Trans. (F)	672.7(594.5)	33.4(35.5)	13.8(23.5)	4 7(4 7)	1/6	9(9)
Seafield Gentex (F)	5.54(11.8c)	0.07(1.8ca)	—(—)	—(—)	—	—(—)
Saga Hols. (I)	21.11(14.17)	1.44(1.31)	7.52(7.31)	1.2(1.07b)	30/4	—(3 7b)
Strong & Fisher (I)	19.4(13.37)	0.53(0.12a)	9 0(3 4a)	1 6(2.8)	4/5	—(5 0)
Tricentrol (F)	88.6(69.6)	45 1(41.1)	23 7(31.2)	5 6(5.6)	—	8.4(8 4)
Utd. News. (F)	86.5(76.55	3 63(4.53)	14 8(20.8)	7 5(7 5)	9/6	12(12)

Dividends in this table are shown net of tax on pence per share. Elsewhere in Business News dividends are shown on a gross basis. To establish gross multiply the net dividend by 1 428. Profits are shown pretax and earnings are net. a=Loss. b=Adjusted for scrip issue. c=For 15 months

COMMODITIES

COPPER: Higher grade closed easier — Afternoon. — Higher grade cash £834-835; three months £863-862.50 Sales: 4,800 tonnes. Cash standard cathodes. £831-833.00; three months. £858.50-859.90: Sales: Nil tonnes. Morning. — Higher grade cash. £839-39 50. three months £866-66.50 Settlement, £839.50. Sales: 6,700 tonnes. Cash standard cathodes. £835-36.00: three months. £862-63.00. Settlement. £836 00. Sales: 350 tonnes.

TIN: Standard tin was easier. — Afternoon. — Standard cash. £7080-7100 a tonne; three months £7300-7305. Sales. 445 tonnes. High grade cash £7080-7100: three months £7300-7305. Sales. 220 tonnes. Morning — Standard cash £7110-15: three months £7525-30. Settlement. £7115. Sales. 500 tonnes. High grade cash £7110-15: three months. £7535-50. Settlement, £7115. Sales. Nil tonnes. Singapore tin ex-works. $M30.19 a picul.

LEAD was barely steady. — Afternoon. — Cash £533.50-34.50 per tonne. three months £545-545.50. Sales. 3,000 tonnes. Morning. — Cash £537-38.00; three months £545.50-46.00. Settlement £538.00. Sales. 3,650 tonnes.

ZINC was easier — Afternoon. — Cash £424-425 per tonne: three months £429-429.50. Sales, 2,600 tonnes Morning — Cash £425.50-26.50: three months £432-32.50. Settlement. £426.50 Sales, 3,250 tonnes.

PLATINUM was at £175.05 ($315.25) a troy ounce.

NICKEL was steady. — Afternoon. — Cash £3,035-3,050 per tonne: three months £3,086-3,089. Sales. 588 tonnes. Morning. — Cash £3,040-48. three months £3,088-90, Settlement. £3,048. Sales, 474 tonnes.

RUBBER (pence per kilo): — Apl. 54.00-54.40: May, 55.00-55.20: Apl-June, 54.70-55.00: July-Sept. 57.70-57.90: Oct-Dec, 58.80-58.90: Jan-Mch, 60.70-60.90. Apr-June, 62.80-63 10: July-Sept, 64.80-64.90; Oct-Dec. 67.00-67.10. Sales: four lots at five tonnes each and 235 at 15 tonnes (includes 11 kerbs). **COFFEE. — ROBUSTAS** (£ per tonne): March, 1,351-1,353; May, 1,168-1,169; [illegible]

[illegible]

ENTERTAINMENTS

[illegible]

OPERA & BALLET

[illegible]

CONCERTS

[illegible]

THEATRES

[illegible]

CINEMAS

[illegible]

ART GALLERIES

[illegible]

ROYAL INSTITUTE OF PAINTERS IN WATERCOLOURS. 170th Exhib. Over 700 Contemporary Watercolours. Daily incl. Suns & Easter 10-5 until 12 April. Adm. 50p.

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WHITECHAPEL ART GALLERY Whitechapel High St 377 0107 tube Aldgate E. To 2 May Frida Kahlo & Tina Modotti / Anselm Kiefer Sun-Fri 11-5.50 cl Sat and 9-12 April Free.

WILDLIFE IN WATERCOLOUR by K P Faulley at the Marklewood Gallery, Great Bardfield, Essex (0371) 810106 29th March-11th April, 11 am-5 pm.

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Personal Columns	£3.25 per line (min 2 lines) £17.50 per cm semi-display (min 3 cms) £20.00 per cm full display (min 3 cms)
Appointments	£3.25 per line (min 2 lines) £17.50 per cm semi-display (min 3 cms) £20.00 per cm full display (min 3 cms)
Property	£3.25 per line (min 2 lines) £17.50 per cm semi-display (min 3 cms) £20.00 per cm full display (min 3 cms)

SPORT

FOOTBALL

French armour needs prodding

By Stuart Jones, Football Correspondent

Ron Greenwood, England's manager, had to talk his way into the Parc des Princes Stadium on Wednesday night. His complimentary ticket was mislaid but he proved as loquacious before France's defeat of Northern Ireland as he was after it. France, he believes, hold the key to England's door to the World Cup quarter final.

They meet in the opening tie of Group 4 in the San Mames stadium where England delighted themselves as well as the local supporters in their draw against Atletico Bilbao on Tuesday night. That game may have been a friendly stroll and the Irish may have collapsed but the veil hiding England's prospects parted at least for 24 hours.

Mr Greenwood's belief about the French accent was confirmed. They stutter under pressure and are cloqué when confident. "Un joli trèfle à quatre feuilles" (a pretty four-leafed clover) read the headline above a glowing report in yesterday's L'Equipe. Yet the Irish, after briefly threatening to uproot French hopes, allowed them to nurture such a victory. England will not.

England are equally as unlikely to cease prodding a French defence that was remarkably wobbly early on. Coppell, particularly, would have relished the freedom given to Brotherston whose trickery within the opening quarter of an hour threatened to dismantle completely the French armour. By the end, though, Armstrong was battling away on his own.

France did show that they have attacking, if nervous newcomers of note, in Zenier, Bellone and Couriol to take the places if need be of such experienced internationals as Rocheteau and Six. They also have a midfield controller in Larios who greatly impressed Mr Greenwood. Apparently because of a difference in personalities, he and Platini find it awkward combining together.

Billy Bingham conceded the crushing defeat by commenting that at least the Irish side now know what they are up against. A higher class, he added, that England and France, the two opponents so far in their cautionary build-up, were evenly matched, a thought that is reflected in the similar margins of victory.

In two and a half months the crucial afternoon in Bilbao will dictate the pattern of the tides. If England do so, they can go on to spread their wings, certainly against Kuwait in the final group match, as they did in practice this week. If not, the ploy of using Wilkins deep in defence as against the Irish at Wembley may be used.

Mr Greenwood will resume his spying mission next month to see Czechoslvakia, the other first round opponents, in West Germany, and France take on Peru. By then, after England's home international against wales, his flexible jigsaw, built around 22 adaptable pieces, will be nearing completion. The talking will at last be almost at an end.

Spain bear the brunt

Spaniards were at the centre of criticism yesterday after complaints about the interpretation of the rules by their top referee and players.

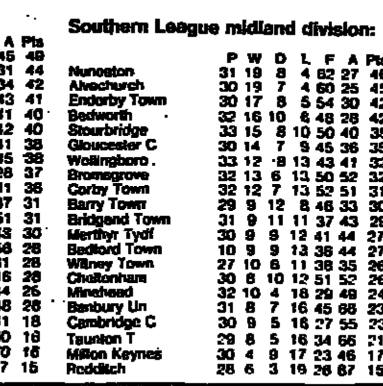
Augusto Castillo, the official tipped to take the Cup final if Spain are not involved, sent off two players from the Italian Under-21 side in the goalless draw against Scotland on the Uefa Championship quarter-final.

The Italian Coach Azello Vicini said: "The referee's handling of the game was dreadful."

Spanish players were accused by Ian Walsh, the Welsh forward after the 1-1 draw in Valencia.

One of the victims of some Questionable tackling Walsh said: "they tried to intimidate us in the tunnel before we went out onto the pitch. We were lined up with a wire mesh between us and they thought it was going to be easy. We just ignored them and gave our answer on the pitch."

The Italian official overlooked many fouls — not all of them committed by Spain — but banned the Welsh coach Doug Livermore from the touchline after he had protested when Sanchez chased Micky Thomas before deliberately clipping his ankle.



Gregory: Out of luck

Gregory must miss the semi-final

John Gregory, the Queen's Park Rangers midfield player, will miss the FA Cup semi-final with West Bromwich Albion at Highbury tomorrow week after being sent off against Watford on March 9 and banned for two matches from March 23.

Rangers hoped that those would be the game at Rotherham tomorrow and the rearranged match with Sheffield Wednesday on Monday. But the FA say that as the Monday game was arranged after Gregory had been sent off, it does not count towards his suspension.

Glenn Roeder, the Rangers captain, banned for one match after reaching 20 points, will be eligible for the semi-final, missing only the Rotherham game.

Chris Nicholl, of Southampton, and Ante Rajkovic, of Swansea City were banned for one match after reaching 20 points. Two Middlesbrough players are also out, Bobby Thomson for one match and Tony McAndrew for two.

Wolverhamton have Joe Gallagher banned from the match at Coventry

Scotland vote against League change

Scotland's football clubs took 13 minutes yesterday to reject a proposal from the Scottish League to reshape the game's structure. The proposal to change the three divisions from 10, 14 and 14 clubs to 16, 12 and 12 was defeated by 20 votes to 18.

The result of the secret ballot shocked the management committee, who had predicted that the required two-thirds majority of 26 votes would be obtained.

The management committee were responsible for calling yesterday's meeting, a move which they described as being "essential to safeguard the league set-up as we know it", in the light of falling attendances and growing financial difficulties.

However, Scotland's 38 senior league clubs indicated, by their vote, that the legislators were completely out of touch. Now the management committee will investigate how they could be so wide off the mark with a proposal which was clearly not what the clubs want to "safeguard their future".

Enfield in fight for 'team of the year'

By Paul Newman

Enfield are poised to overtake Runcorn in the chase for the FA's annual non-league "team of the year" award. Seven weeks ago Runcorn led the Alliance Premier League by 17 points, but Enfield are now just three behind thanks to a run in which they have taken 23 points out of a possible 27.

In that time Enfield have also reached the semi-finals of the FA Trophy. Runcorn, the Trophy favourites, were knocked out in the third round.

A turning point in the two clubs' fortunes could come on Tuesday next week, when they meet at Enfield in the second leg of a semi-final in the Bob Lord Trophy, the Alliance League's own cup competition. The first leg ended 1-1.

FA Cup performances are an important factor in the "team of the year" award and Enfield hold the edge there, too. They went out in the third round to Crystal Palace after beating Wimbledon 4-1 in the second, whereas Runcorn fell to Burnley in the first.

Runcorn have the advantage, however, in county cup results, having reached the final of the Cheshire Senior Cup. Enfield were knocked out of the Middlesex Senior Cup by Wealdstone, of the Southern League.

☐ Kettering, who last month announced debts of £100,000, have successfully negotiated the first stage of their survival plan. The alliance club, who had to find £10,000 by the end of this week, have raised more than £12,000 including £3,500 from the sale of Stuart Atkins, their prolific scorer, to Barnet.

☐ South Liverpool, who 12 years ago became the first English semi-professional or professional club to play on a Sunday, will pioner another experiment on Sunday week when they stage a match with a five thirty kick-off. The visitors for a Northern Premier League fixture are Burton Albion. Malcolm Flanagan, South Liverpool's treasurer, said: "There isn't much on television about that time, and we are hoping people will want to come out to watch a game after their Sunday dinner."

NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Bangor	32	21	7	4	88	45	49
Mossley	30	18	8	4	59	31	44
Witton Albion	33	18	6	9	59	34	42
Grantham	34	14	13	7	52	43	41
Southport	35	13	14	8	51	41	40
Gateshead	33	14	12	7	48	42	40
Macclesfield	32	15	8	9	58	41	38
Worksop Town	33	15	8	10	42	45	38
Kings Lynn	31	14	9	8	47	28	37
Marine	32	13	10	9	61	41	36
Buxton	30	12	7	11	37	37	31
Workington	33	12	7	14	48	51	31
Oswestry Town	33	10	10	13	42	48	30
Gainsborough	33	9	10	14	53	58	28
Lancaster City	30	8	10	11	28	31	28
Goole Town	32	9	10	13	37	46	28
Burton	27	10	6	11	40	44	26
South Liverpool	33	8	10	15	41	48	26
Tamworth	30	6	6	18	19	41	18
Mallock Town	33	3	10	20	26	60	16
Morecambe	30	5	6	19	25	70	16
Netherfield	29	3	9	17	24	57	15

Southern League midland division:

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Nuneaton	31	19	8	4	62	27	46
Alvechurch	30	19	7	4	60	25	45
Enderby Town	30	17	8	5	54	30	42
Bedworth	32	16	10	6	48	28	42
Stourbridge	33	15	8	10	50	40	38
Gloucester C	30	14	7	9	45	36	35
Wellingboro.	33	12	8	13	43	41	32
Bromsgrove	32	13	6	13	50	52	32
Corby Town	32	12	7	13	52	51	31
Barry Town	29	9	12	8	46	33	30
Bridgend Town	31	9	11	11	37	43	29
Merthyr Tydf	30	9	9	12	41	44	27
Bedford Town	10	9	9	13	38	44	27
Witney Town	27	10	6	11	38	35	26
Cheltenham	30	8	10	12	51	52	26
Minehead	32	10	4	18	29	49	24
Banbury Un	31	8	7	16	45	68	23
Cambridge C	30	9	5	16	27	55	23
Taunton T	29	8	5	16	34	66	21
Milton Keynes	30	4	9	17	23	46	17
Redditch	28	6	3	19	26	67	15

GOLF

It is tough taking on women and system

By John Hennessy, Golf Correspondent

Ther man was not in the best of spirits. "We were beaten by the system, not the girls", he said. Terry Pinner was referring to the generous handicap allowed to women players in the Sunnigndale Foursomes, reduced to the last four yesterday.

The result of another eventful day was that two all-women pairs have survived, thereby breading fresh ground. The semi-final matches this morning are Neil Coles and Doug McClelland v Mary McKeona and Maureen Madill at 9.30 followed by Hedley Muscroft and Duncan Muscroft v Christine Langford and Mickey Walker.

One women's pair fell by the wayside, but that was inevitable since Miss Langford and Miss Walker, both professional, were pitted against the Welsh sisters Vicki Thomas and Mandy Rawlings, both amateurs. In today's matches Coles and McClelland will have to give a stroke to the Irish pair at 11 holes and the Muscroft, father and son, yield a similar advantage at nine.

Judging by what we have seen so far Coles and McClelland will be the more heavily stretched. The Irish women, also amateurs, have so far had to play only 67 holes in five matches and have never been taken beyond the 14th. In the morning they had reached the turn in 35, one under par from the men's tees, and in the afternoon in 37.

Their consistency had been such that they have never dropped more than one stroke to par, and that usually through three putts. They have not played one hole badly, the odd lapse on the green apart.

In the morning Charles Cox, beaten at the 14th by Miss Madill and Miss McKenna, maintained that he and his partner would have had to be eight under par to stay alive. In the afternoon Pinner and David Harrison, having lost the first hole to a five, net four, hit two stupendous woods in to the distant and invisible second green, and still did not even have the chance of a birdie putt.

Miss Madill chipped to 10 yards and Miss McKenna roled home the putt. Pinner shook his head, as he did again coming off the twelfth. "Nobody could give these girls 10 shots", he complained, "Not even Nicklaus and Palmer".

Miss Langford and her partner derived little joy form their victory in the aternoon since it was almost a tragedy of errors. The Welsh sisters took six at the sixth, seven at the seventh, and, if the ugly numerical sequence was not maintained, they nevertheless took three putts on the next two holes to go from one up to three down. They had used three putts on four successive greens. Miss Langford, the strong woman in the professional partnership, put them out of their misery with a chip to four feet for a birdie four at the 16th.

FIFTH ROUND: D W McClelland and N Coles (+2) 6 and 5 A Broadway and G Derkson (scr) P Green and C Mitchell (+1) 3 and 2 T Morgan and R Percival (+2) Miss M McKenna and Miss M Madill (+12) 5 and 4 C Cox and J Bennett (+2) T Pinner and D Harrison (+1) 2 and 1 A C Rattue and T Clements (+1); D Ray and D Scanlan (+1) 1 hole P Morley and R Burgess; H Muscroft and D Muscroft (+1) 2 holes J Dawes and Mrs C Caldwell (6) Miss M Rawlings and Mrs V Thomas (12) 6 and 4 A Dorey and A D Hope (+1), Miss C Langford and Miss M Walker (10) 3 and 1 C Deloy and D Small (+2)

QUARTER-FINALS ROUND: McClelland and Coles 1 hole Green and Mitchell; Miss McKenna and Miss Madill 7 and 6 Pinner and Harrison; Muscroft and Muscroft 1 hole Ray and Scanlan; Miss Langford and Miss Walker 4 and 2 Miss Rawlings and Mrs Thomas.

Faldo struggling

From John Ballantine, Hilton Head, Mar 25

The pursuit of mere money, according to George Bernard Shaw, was one of the less sinister motives in life. Nick Faldo, together with most modern sports people, has much the same notion.

Faldo, the 24-year-old PGA champion, from Welwyn, has two goals on the United States tour; improving his game among the toughest golf competition in the world, and building up a total in prize money here of about $38,000. He believes this sum will put him among the leading 125 money winners at the end of the year who will go straight into next season's tournaments when Monday pre-qualifying ends.

Faldo stands in 37th position, with $27,712 and knows how easily it could have been $15,000 more had he not had several disastrous finished similar to his two closing holes on Sunday in the Tournament Players Championship when the twice hit into water.

But "it is all good experience and will enable him to know what to do in future," according to his wife, Melanie, who followed him during his first round of the Sea Pines Heritage Classic today and went on to elaborate: "He is still pretty sick about that Jacksonville finished but not unhappy about his general play

Early scores: 68: J Mahaffey, S Hoch; 69: T Watson, C Hallberg; 70: I Aoki (Japan); 71: J Fought, J Cook, T Purtzer; 72: G Morgan, C Coody, R Maltbie, G Cadle, M Lye; 73: B Bryant, B Eastwood, J Nelford (Canada), L Wadkins.

IN SHORT

Cambridge hit more bad luck

By Richard Burnell

It is sometmes claimed that the Lord is not on the side of the underdog, and certainly during their six years of defeat by Oxford, Cambridge had not been noted for good luck.

Last night — at the 11th hour one might say —actually, around 6pm, they hit a submerged piece of timber and ripped out the fin and part of the bottom of their new Empacker shell. The crew had to go ashore opposite Chiswick eyot and returned to the boat houses in the coaches launch. No doubt the damage will be repaired. If not Cambridge will take over their second crew's boat. But either way their final preparation for Saturday's race must be jeopardized.

Apart from the evening drama, it was a day for conservation at Putney yesterday. Both crews were conserving their energies, the public were enjoying the sunshine and no doubt conserving a little of that in case it proves to be the whole Bitish summer, and even some members of the press were seen to nod off in the launch.

The morning's work consisted of three practice starts by Oxford and two by Cambridge. The only notable incident was when the Light Blues' non-combatant secretary managed to wrap the mooring rope of their stake boat round the propeller of their coaching launch.

Policies and programmes then diverged. Dan Topolski timed Oxford's second training outing for 2.30, accepting the slack water on the top of the tide in the interests of attuning his men's digestive juices to the time of Saturday's race.

Argentina held

West Germany held the World Cup holders Argentina to a 1 — 1 draw in Buenos Aires. Maradona was heavily marked and Kempes had a disappointing game. Dremmler scored for the Germans and Calderon equalized.

Return to soccer

Christine Matthews, the former Chelsea secretary, is back in football as secretary of Brentford. For the last two years she has been working for Aer Lingus.

Scot's pitch

The Scottish football team will soon have an artificial pitch for training at their Largs headquarters. Superturf Europa have won the contract to provide a 6,000 square metre surface at the Sports Council's National Training Centre at the Ayrshire coastal resort.

Nicholas to stay

Peter Nicholas, the Arsenal midfield player who recently lost his first team place, will not be joining Coventry City in an exchange deal with the England under-21 striker, Garry Thompson. Terry Neill, the Arsenal manager, would offer no explanation as to why the deal has been called off.

Waites shares lead

Lusaka, Zambia, March 25 — Brian Waites, professional at the Hollinwell Club, Nottinghamshire, mastered the 7,250 yards Lusaka Golf Club course to score a five under par 68 today and share the first round lead in the Zambian open championship with Irish Ryder Cup Player, Eamonn Darcy.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

Kick-off 7 30 unless stated

FOURTH DIVISION: Colchester v Hull City; Stockport v Darlington; York City v Scunthorpe.

RUGBY LEAGUE: Second Division: Carlisle v Rochdale Hornets (8.0); Swinton v Cardiff City.

RUGBY UNION: Club match: Cheltenham v St Ives.

BADMINTON: All England championships (Wembley).

RACKETS: Public Schools Doubles (Queen's Club, Kensington).

CRICKET

Hughes leads again

Sydney, March 25. — Western Australia's Kim Hughes has regained the captaincy of the Australian cricket team for the tour of Pakistan in September and October, the Australian Cricket Board announced today.

Hughes was captain of the Australian team which toured England last year, but lost his post when Greg Chappell made himself available for selection in the last Australian season. Chappell is again unavailable to tour, along with the fast bowlers Dennis Lillee and Len Pascoe.

Alan Border, the Queensland left-hander. is vice-captain of the squad of 15; Rodney Marsh declined the job. Marsh, aged 34, said later he thought the selectors should give a younger player the post to help him gain experience.

South Australia's 24-year-old opening batsman, Wayne Phillips, and Queensland's powerful batsman, Greg Ritchie, aged 22, are the only newcomers in the team.

Phillips completed an outstanding first full season; South Australia won the Sheffield Shield by scoring 857 runs at an average of 47.61.

Ritchie is considered the finest batsman Queensland has produced since Peter Burge. He scored three Sheffield Shield centuries this season, scoring 833 runs at an average of 59.50.

Victoria's fast bowler Ian, Callen and the South Australian all-rounder, Peter Sleep, will be making their first appearances for Australia since 1979, when World Series Cricket depleted traditional ranks.

SQUAD: K J Hughes (Western Australia, captain), R Border (Queensland, vice captain), T Alderman (Western Australia), R J Bright (Victoria), W Callen (Victoria), J Dyson (New South Wales), B M Laird (Western Australia), G Lawson (New South Wales), R W Marsh (Western Australia), W Phillips (South Australia), G Ritchie (Queensland), R Sleep (South Australia), J R Thomson (Queensland), G M Wood (Western Australia), B Yardley (Western Australia). — Agencies.

Board unmoved

Sydney, March 25. — The Australian Cricket Board have locked a closed door on the prospects of Australians playing in South Africa. An — ACB statement issued today said: "The Board confirms its adherence to its previously stated view as the serious consequences that could ensue if an Australian cricketer were to take up such an offer." — AP.

Pakistan open out

Lahore, March 25.—Pakistan scored 398 for five in reply to Sri Lanka's first innings 240 on the third day of the third Test here

Pakistan lost only one wicket before lunch as Mohsin Khan completed his maiden Test century. He fell finally for 129.

Sri Lanka's brief hope of containing Pakistan came in the second spell by Asantha de Mel, their fast bowler. After bowling 16 overs without a wicket, he dismissed Miandad and Wasim Raja in consecutive overs to make Pakistan 306 for 5.

SRI LANKA First Innings 240 (R L Dias 109; Imran Khan 8 for 58)

PAKISTAN: First Innings

Mudassar Nazar, c Madugalle, b S de Silva	37
Mohsin Khan, b Ratnayake	129
Majid Khan, c Ranasinghe, b Ratnayake	63
Javed Miandad, c Gunatilleke, b De Mel	26
Zaheer Abbas, not out	82
Wasim Raja, c Gunatilleke, b De Mel	1
Imran Khan, not out	37
Extras (b-4, lb-3, nb-10, w-6)	23
Total (5 wkts)	398

Ashraf Ali, Tahir Naqqash, Iqbal Qasim, Tausif Ahmed to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-79, 2-230, 3-247, 4-297, 5-306.

BOWLING: Asantha de Mel 24-3-105-2, Ratnayake 18-1-75-2, S de Silva 36-4-117-1, Vijesoorya 21-3-78-0 — Reuter.

Rebels' last chance

Johannesburg, Mar 25 — Graham Gooch and his 14 English rebels are still seeking a victory over South Africa as they go into their final fixture of the eight-game tour at Durban's Kingsmead tomorrow.

The tourists — whose strength lies in their batting — are unlikely to gain any assistance from the pitch, which is bound to suit Vintcent Van Der Bijl, the medium fast South African bowler.

Van Der Bijl took 10 for 104 in the first international in Johannesburg which the South Africans won by eight wickets, and then three for 114 in Cape Town as the second match ended in a draw.

The 35-year-old Natalian was also the most prolific wicket-taker in the one-day series, which the Sprinkboks won 3-0.

The visitors will need another solid batting display from Gooch and Geoff, Boycott the openers, and in-form Wayne Larkins and Dennis Amiss to suare the series, but they remain prone to sudden middle-order collapses.

With Graeme Pollock due for a big score and Jimmy Cook and Peter Kirsten among the runs, the South Africans have little fear of a poor batting display.

Injuries have taken much of the punch out of the English attack, with only Les Taylor, the seamer, showing anything resembling International form.

SOUTH AFRICA: A Richards (captain), S R Cook, N Kirsten, R G Pollock, B E Rice, A P Kuiper, A J Kourie, R V Jennings, S Le Roux, A P van der Bijl, K Watson.

SAB ENGLISH XI (from: G A Gooch, (captain), G Boycott, W Larkins, D L Amiss, R W Woolmer, P Willey, A P E Knott, C M Old, D L Underwood, J N Lever, L B Taylor, M Hendrick, A Sidebottom, W Humpage.

Indoor rebels: Seven of the cricketers currently in South Africa — Gooch, Lever, Underwood, Woolmer, Knott, Amiss and Humpage — will be playing in the indoor seven-a-side tournament, sponsored by Woodham Stringer, at the Brighton Centre on April 24-25.

President satisfied

Bombay, Mar 25 — The President of India's cricket board said today he was satisfied with the three-year Test ban on the 15 rebel English players. Mr S. K. Wankhede said the Test and County Cricket Board (TCCB) action would be discussed by the Indian cricket authorities on March 30 before formal government permission was sought to clear India's England tour. — Reuter.

YACHTING

Britain's familiar problem

By John Nicholls

"We intend to recover the America's Cup next year byt if our challenge fails I probably wont try again". So stated Peter de Savary, chairman of the victory Syndicate, after Britain's latest challenger for one of the world's oldest trophies was named by HRH. Princess Michael of Kent in Cowes yesterday.

Lest it be thought that he was preparing for an apologetic end to another unseccessful challenge, Mr de Savary made his intentions clear. "We will not fail for lack of knowing. The boat, her equipment and crew will be the best that Britain can provide and if we then lose I cannot envisage summoning up even more effort in 1986."

What he would gain of course, win or lose, would be invaluable experience and it would be a pity for this to be wasted. One of the failings of recent British challengers has been lack of continuity; each new attempt has been started from scratch.

When pressed, Mr de Savary said that if races were lost on technicalities or protests, they would certainly try again.

He confirmed that the boat named Victory yesterday, representing Royal Burnham Yacht Club, would not necessarily be the one that competes for the right to challenge. Design work on a second yacht has started and if, after a summer's trials in Newport, it is thought that Victory can be improved, work will begin on another boat in August.

Victory will be shipped to the United States in a fortnight's time and will spend the summer practising off Newport. Phil Crebbin will race her against Australia (the last challenger) which will be steered by Harold Cudmore.

The 54-strong squad will move south to either Nassau or Florida for the winter, before returning to Newport for final trials and an elimination series in 1983. Victory is the first of the new crop of 12 metres boats to be launched and it is certain there will be more challengers than ever before, trying to be the first to win the America's Cup in 132 years.

RUGBY UNION

Irish boot that made all the difference

By Peter West, Rugby Correspondent

The defeat of Ireland in Paris last Saturday leaves us all to wonder how the final table might have looked if from the outset the French selectors had stayed loyal to a pack that was the bedrock of their grand slams last season. As it is, the Irish can settle cheerfully for the triple crown and the title — a popular success which is good for the game on both sides of the water.

It was built on a judicious mixture of the old guard and the new and, of course, on the genius of Ollie Campbell as orchestrator and kicker of goals. But there were four weeks between the triple crown victory over Scotland and the French game in Paris — long enough for the Irish to lose their head of steam.

England and Scotland are left to reflect that, but for the drawn match they played at Murrayfield, one or other of them must have finished with a share of the championship. England eventually threw that game away by thoughtlessly conceding a penalty thumped over by Andy Irvine at the climax.

Next, they lost to a buoyant Irish side at Twickenham and made such a mess of things that they deserved to do so. Yet the difference at the finish (16-15) was measured by one of Ollie Campbell's finest kicks.

By then Bill Beaumont had played his last game for England and was about to become the fourth member of the grand slam pack of 1980 to retire from the game. It was not easy to compensate in a couple of seasons for the loss of players such as Uttley, Neary, Cotton and now Beaumont.

Yet, ironically enough, a highly thought of English back division won few prizes against Scotland and Ireland. A decisive Les Cusworth deserves credit for the poise and width he subsequently introduced to the English attack. The return of Dusty Hare was another, yet more significant factor in England's game in Paris.

The euphoria in Scotland after their long-awaited victory at Cardiff, and their devastating exploitation of Welsh mistakes, sharpens appetites north of the border for the 1983 championship and not least for the Calcutta Cup match at Twickenham which will complete their season next March. It also sets up their forthcoming tour of Australia, for which only Jim Renwick and Bruce Hay are presently unavailable.

That outstanding flanker, David Leslie, whose broken leg kept him out of three internationals, still hopes he may be fit for it. The British Lion, John Beattie, is out of the running after a hip injury adding to his serious knee troubles.

The readiness of a speedy, skilful Scottish back division to take risks has long been highly regarded, their defensive qualities less so. Against Wales, however, the tackling was brutally effective. This reflected the influence of the coach Jim Telfer, who has insisted on total commitment and technique. It also reflected the highest degree of physical preparation.

Telfer's dedication to training has paid handsome dividends. The fittest Scottish side that anyone can remember was always going strongly at the finish. It was also notable that Irvine, though lacking his old, blistering pace and enduring a poor afternoon against Ireland, did the orthodox, less glamorous things better than ever.

Wounded Jaguar

Pretoria, Mar 25.—The touring South American Jaguars suffered a setback today when Elisio Branca, a lock forward, pulled out of the team to play South Africa in the first international here on Saturday. The Argentinian farmer has been complaining of stomach problems.—Agence France Presse.

Moseley changes

Moseley make three changes from the side that beat Coventry on Wednesday, for the visit of London Scottish on Saturday. Richard Lawson comes in to the centre, Richard Akenhead is at stand-off, and John Davidson appears in the second row.

Potent brew King's could not swallow

By Peter Marson

Chiswick GS 10
King's School, Cardiff......6

Chiswick displayed panache and little skill in the junior festival final at Roehampton yesterday and this transpired to be a mix too potent for King's, Cardiff, whom Cardiff beat after four minutes of extra time by a goal and a try to a goal.

Having blazed a trail to the final Cardiff were nonplussed and although [...]ix scored a try which Davies converted to match that by Appiah, to which Noah added a conversion, Rogers scored the crucial try after a corkscrewing one by Noah. In the semi-finals Cwmtawe fell to Chiswick and St Dunstan's to King's, Cardiff.

While the junior tournament reached its conclusion another 40 schools were working their way through five rounds in the festival tournament. An exciting last act is in prospect here as 14 group winners come together at Roehampton this morning when King's, Taunton and Oratory make a start to the sixth round at 10.40.

The successful side here meet on to meet Monmouth, winners of group A, who have a bye to the quarter final. It apears that Monmouth who won the festival in 1970, 1973/74 and were runners-up last year field one of their best-ever sides. In an outstanding season where they have lost but once, Monmouth have averaged five tries a match.

Bedford Modern ran in 114 points against 23 in group D but losing to Churchers by 13—12 offered Haberdashers a minute opportunity to carry off the group title. But, scoring 52 points to nil against Kings, Ely who were commended for their sportsmanship by David Spyer, the referee, Haberdashers still have not done enough.

CHISWICK: M Williamson, A Noah, F Appiah, P Rogers, A Higginson, D Braithwaite.

KING'S SCHOOL, CARDIFF: I Dix, S Caranello, N Edwards, A Garland, G Davies, M Caranello, M Legg

Referee: C J Little (London).

BADMINTON

Righting a Rong the Danish way

By Richard Eaton

Only Lene Koppen, the Danish dentist, was able to create a significant halt in the broadening Chinese march at the All-England championships, sponsored by John Player, at Wembley yesterday. Miss Koppen has often said an opponent rarely beats her twice in a row for she always sets out to win next time. She justified the boast by winning 11-7, 11-8 against Xu Rong, who ended the defence of her Danish Open title last week.

But her return for that effort was frightening. She stands isolated in the quarter-finals, like a solitary waggon surrounded by Indians, except that in this case the other seven protagonists are all Chinese. They have five out of eight in the men's singles too. The main battle there has still to be joined because Morten Frost, the Dane, Prakash Padukone, the Indian, and Liem Swie King, the Indonesian, have yet to meet front line opponents. But the feeling has swarmed through Wembley that even this formidable trio may find it impossible to stop Cina's first visit from becoming historic in every way.

In the women's singles the battle is almost won. "I try not to think of all the others as Chinese, just as players", Miss Koppen said ruefully. She now plays Chen Ruizhen, who beat her in the Friends Provident Masters at the Albert Hall in September.

Even if she carves out another [...]enge she must beat four [...]ese in a row to win the title. [...] is asking too much even of so[...]ne who has won it twice be[...]

Pr[...]h, champion with Miss Kopp[...]n 1980, also managed a win ov[...] Chinese, Tian Bing-Yi, but th[...]s expected. Flemming Delfs, [...] champion with Miss Koppen [...] 1977 and still the European [...]ampion, won the first game [...]m Chen Tian-Lung, but faltered [...] Delfs plays less now and tips the [...]ales much more. The loudspe[...] had to summon him back on [...] court for the thrid game an[...]er that he won only two points [...]re.

Two more [...]ation battles went China's w[...] but in each case the Indonesians emerged with credit. Hastomo Arbi, unseeded, led Han Jian, seeded five, 8—5 in the decider and Lie Ivana only lost 11—4, 10—12, 9—12 to Wu Jian-Giu. This was technically a seeding upset but it was Jian-Giu, who beat Xu Rong in the Danich Open final.

There was a happy sequel to the tale of two sisters when Catherine Troke, aged 19, beaten by the younger Helen in her first Wembley appearance on Wednesday, gained revenge in the doubles. Helen, at 17 England's last singles survivor and in the last 16 for the second successive year, had four game points in the second game against Zeng Yuli, Wednesday's conqueror of the world champion, Verawaty Fajirin, before losing 1—11, 10,12.

Andy Goode, England's last man, lost 12—15, 8—15 to Luan Jin, the Friends Provident Masters champion, and home interest now focuses on Nora Perry's defence of two doubles titles.

Earlier a World Grand Prix circuit, sponsored by Pro-Kennex for 1 million dollars over four year from next year, was announced. As badminton becomes aggressively professional the plan is to prevent concentration of prize money among top players and avoid some of the mistakes of its cousin tennis. The venue for the Grand Prix final has not been fixed, but on yesterday's evidence it has to be Asia.

Men's singles

SECOND ROUND Chen Tianlung (China) beat S Wibisino (Indonesia) 15-4, 15-1; T. Kihlstrom (Sweden) beat Hadiyanto (Indonesia) 15-11, 8-15, 15-12; Sartika (Indonesia) beat Jiang Guoliang (China) 15-10, 15-4; Han Jian (China) beat T. Wadood (Pakistan) 15-6, 15-2; Sidek (Malaysia) beat P. Sutton (GB) 15-13, 15-13; Luan Jin (China) beat Sidek (Malaysia) 15-4, 15-4; F. Delfs (Denmark) beat S. Butler (GB) 15-3, 15-3; Liem Swie King (Indonesia) beat Li Yongbo (China) 15-5, 15-5; Chen Changjie (China) beat N. Yates (GB) 15-7, 15-4; He Shangquan (China) beat R. Stevens (GB) 15-5, 16-11.

THIRD ROUND: Swie King beat Sidek 15-3, 15-9; Shangquan beat Kihlstrom 15-6, 15-7; Tianlung beat Delfs 8-15, 15-2, 15-2; Luan Jin beat A Goode (GB) 15-12, 15-8; M Frost (Denmark) beat Sartika 15-9, 15-3; Jian beat H Arbi (Indonesia) 15-5, 15-11; P Padukone (India) beat Bingyi 15-8, 15-1.

ROUND-UP

FOOTBALL

International matches

France (2) 4 N Ireland (0) 0
Zenier, Couriol
Larios (pen), Genghini
34,000

Spain (1) 1 Wales (0) 1
Satrustegui R James, 20,000

Uefa U-21 Championship
Quarter final, second leg

Scotland (0) 0 Italy (0) 0
Scotland win 1-0 aggregate

First division
West Brom. (1) 2 Notts Co (0) 4
Regis, King McCulloch (3), Mair, 12,759

Third division
Exeter (0) 0 Lincoln (0) 2
M Rogers Hibberd (2 pen), 3,081

Fourth division
Peterboro (1) 1 Torquay (0) 0
Smith 4,045

Scottish First Division:
St Johnstone (2) 3 East Stirling (0) 2
Brogan (2) Blair (2)
Beddie

Scottish second division
Cowdenbeath (0) 1 Arbroath (2) 2
Forrest Harley, Robb
Forfar (0) 1 Clyde (1) 3
Clarke Reily (3)

INTERNATIONAL MATCHES: Czechoslovakia 2, Greece 1 (in Prague). Austria 3, Hungary 2 (in Budapest). Belgium 4, Romania 1 (in Brussels). Switzerland 2, Portugal 1 (in Lugano).

ALLIANCE PREMIER LEAGUE: Maidstone 1, Bath 0, Telford 0, Enfield 0

SOUTHERN LEAGUE: Midland: Alvechurch 4, Bromsgrove 0, Bedford 1, Enderby 3, Bridgend 1, Witney 2, Cheltenham 1, Taunton 2. Southern: Dover 3, Addlestone and Weybridge 3, Dunstable 5, Thanet 0, Fareham 3, Canterbury 1, Folkestone 1, Poole 6

NORTHERN PREMIER LEAGUE: South Liverpool 0, Marine 3, Worksop 1, Bangor 6 Bass Cup: Semi-final, second leg Mossley 2 Workington 1, (Mossley win 6-1 on aggregate)

MIDLAND LEAGUE: Cup second round Alfreton 2, Arnold 0

CENTRAL LEAGUE: Blackburn 4, Newcastle 1, Leeds 0, Sheffield Wednesday 0

FOOTBALL COMBINATION: Reading 0, Oxford 1, Watford 1, Bristol Rovers 0.

Rugby Union

CLUB MATCHES: Llanelli 68, Penarth 0; Pontypool 3, Bristol 19; Glamorgan Wanderers 6, Ebbw Vale 13; Moseley 7, Coventry 3; Nottingham 14, Nuneaton 3; Mobbs Memorial Match: East Midlands 22, Barbarians 35.

SCHOOL MATCHES: 16 Group International: England 40, Portugal 6.

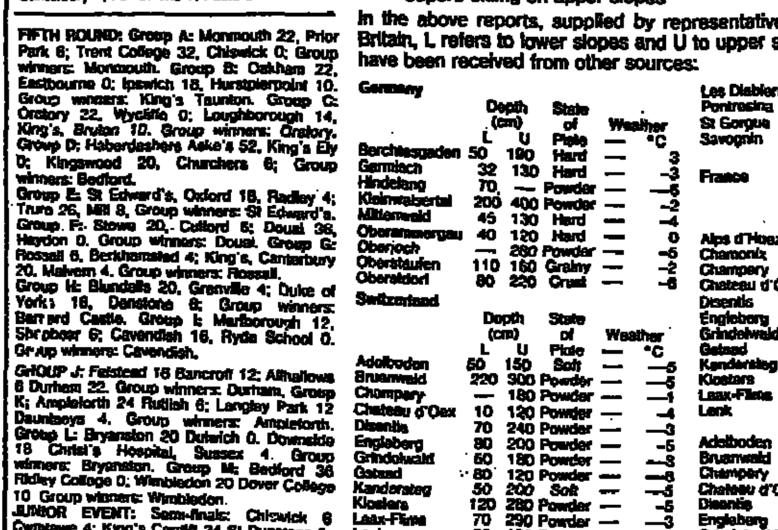
RUGBY LEAGUE: First division: Hull K R 36, Hull 7.

FIFTH ROUND: Group A: Monmouth 22, Prior Park 6; Trent College 32, Chiswick 0; Group winners: Monmouth. Group B: Oakham 22, Eastbourne 0; Ipswich 18, Hurstpierpoint 10. Group winners: King's Taunton. Group C: Oratory 22, Wycliffe 0; Loughborough 14, King's, Bruton 10. Group winners: Oratory. Group D: Haberdashers Aske's 52, King's Ely 0; Kingswood 20, Churchers 6; Group winners: Bedford. Group E: St Edward's, Oxford 18, Radley 4; Truro 26, Mill 8, Group winners: St Edward's. Group. F: Stowe 20, Colford 6; Douai 36, Haydon 0. Group winners: Douai. Group G: Rossall 6, Berkhamsted 4; King's, Canterbury 20, Malvern 4. Group winners: Rossall. Group H: Blundells 20, Grenville 4; Duke of York's 18, Denstone 8; Group winners: Barnard Castle. Group I: Marlborough 12, Shrewsbury 6; Cavendish 18, Ryde School 0. Group winners: Cavendish. GROUP J: Felstead 16 Bancroft 12; Allhallows 6 Durham 22. Group winners: Durham. Group K; Ampleforth 24 Rutlish 6; Langley Park 12 Dauntseys 4. Group winners: Ampleforth. Group L: Bryanston 20 Dulwich 0. Downside 18 Christ's Hospital, Sussex 4. Group winners: Bryanston. Group M: Bedford 36 Ridley College 0; Wimbledon 20 Dover College 10 Group winners: Wimbledon. JUNIOR EVENT: Semi-finals: Chiswick 6 Cwmtawe 4; King's Cardiff 24 St Dunstans 6. Final: Chiswick 10 King's, Cardiff 6.

SKIING CONDITIONS

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	Conditions Piste	Conditions Off Piste	Runs to resort	Weather (5 pm)	°C
Andermatt	130	365	Good	Varied	Good	Fined	7
South slopes slushy							
Anzère	130	270	Good	Varied	Fair	Fine	7
Skiing good							
Arosa	170	210	Good	Varied	Good	Fair	-4
Powder to spring on good base							
Courmayeur	130	275	Good	Varied	Fair	Fine	-4
Good powder snow on upper slopes							
Flaine	205	525	Good	Varied	Good	Fine	1
Lower pistes slushy							
Grindelwald	—	220	Good	Heavy	Good	Fine	-5
Excellent piste skiing							
Isola 2000	170	200	Good	Varied	Good	Fine	-1
Excellent skiing							
Kitzbüel	80	230	Good	Varied	Good	Fine	—1
Excellent skiing conditions							
La Plagne	190	315	Good	Crust	Good	Fine	3
Good skiing above 1800m							
Les Arcs	180	290	Good	Heavy	Good	Fine	3
Good skiing							
St Anton	120	400	Good	Varied	Good	Fine	5
Spring conditions							
Sauze d'Oulx	20	90	Fair	Varied	Poor	Fine	7
Good skiing on upper pistes							
Tignes	230	300	Good	Crust	Good	Fine	0
Superb skiing on upper slopes							

In the above reports, supplied by representatives of the Ski Club of Great Britain, L refers to lower slopes and U to upper slopes. The following reports have been received from other sources:



Germany

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	State of Piste	Weather	°C
Berchtesgaden	50	190	Hard	—	3
Garmisch	32	130	Hard	—	-3
Hindelang	70	—	Powder	—	-5
Kleinwalsertal	200	400	Powder	—	-2
Mittenwald	45	130	Hard	—	-4
Oberammergau	40	120	Hard	—	0
Oberjoch	—	280	Powder	—	-5
Oberstaufen	110	160	Grainy	—	-2
Oberstdorf	80	220	Crust	—	-8

Switzerland

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	State of Piste	Weather	°C
Adelboden	50	150	Soft	—	-5
Braunwald	220	300	Powder	—	-5
Champery	—	180	Powder	—	-1
Chateau d'Oex	10	120	Powder	—	-4
Disentis	70	240	Powder	—	-3
Engleberg	80	200	Powder	—	-5
Grindelwald	60	180	Powder	—	-8
Gstaad	80	120	Powder	—	-8
Kandersteg	50	200	Soft	—	-5
Klosters	120	280	Powder	—	-5
Laax-Flims	70	290	Powder	—	-3
Lenk	25	150	Powder	—	-8
Lenzerheide	120	200	Powder	—	-5
Les Diablerets	50	120	Soft	—	-8
Pontresina	70	150	Powder	—	—12
St Cergue	50	100	Powder	—	—2
Savognin	40	155	Powder	—	—1

France

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	State of Piste	Weather	°C
Alps d'Huez	220	330	—	—	—
Chamonix	80	600	—	—	—
Champery	—	180	Powder	—	—1
Chateau d'Oex	10	120	Powder	—	—4
Disentis	70	240	Powder	—	—3
Engleberg	80	200	Powder	—	—5
Grindelwald	50	180	Powder	—	—3
Gstaad	80	120	Powder	—	—8
Kandersteg	50	200	Soft	—	—5
Klosters	120	280	Powder	—	—5
Laax-Flims	70	290	Powder	—	—8
Lenk	25	150	Powder	—	—8
	L	U	Piste	—	°C
Adelboden	50	150	Soft	—	—8
Braunwald	220	300	Powder	—	—5
Champery	—	180	Powder	—	—1
Chateau d'Oex	10	120	Powder	—	—4
Disentis	70	240	Powder	—	—3
Engleberg	80	200	Powder	—	—5
Grindelwald	60	180	Powder	—	—8
Gstaad					

THE RACING INDUSTRY

Part IV: Overseas breeders have exported the choicest stallions and mares causing a sad deterioration in the quality of thoroughbreds

British blood is thinning fast

By Peter Willett

"The thoroughbred, as the former United States ambassador in Britain Mr John Hay Whitney — a lifelong supporter of racing in both countries — once remarked, is "a creature of blood and heart and spirit". It is this that distinguishes racehorses as a gambling medium from inanimate devices like cards and wheels of fortune and makes the breeding industry and integral part of the British Turf. Studs in England, Scotland and Wales still provide nearly two-thirds of all the horses in training, in spite of Ireland's special position as a supplier, and her recent growth in yearling imports, particularly from the United States.

British breeders created the thoroughbred and provided the original stock for breeders all over the world. But now the overseas industries have expanded at such a rate that Britain accounts for less than five per cent of the estimated world annual production of 100,000 thoroughbred foals.

Horses from abroad

The decline in the British national wealth, combined with powerful fiscal incentives elsewhere, has enabled breeders overseas notably in the United States, to help themselves to the choicest British stallions and mares. As a result there has been a relative deterioration in the quality of British thoroughbreds.

In recent years the principal British racing stables have been heavily stocked by horses bought — mostly by foreigners attracted by the variety and ambience of British racing — at the main North American yearling sales. In 1981 248, or 35 per cent, of the 709 horses in the six stables that won most races on the flat were sired by stallions stationed outside England, Scotland and Wales. The percentage is little more than half that for all British stables, and indicates the dependence of the smaller Flat racing and jumping stables on home-produced horses.

Some aspects of the 1981 racing scene were favourable for British breeders. British-bred horses won 44, or 45 per cent of the 98 pattern races, the series designed to provide a comprehensive programme of tests for the best horses, compared with 37 of the 100 such races run in 1980. The improvement may have been marginal, but at least represented an reversal of the steady decline of the previous decade.

At the same time trade at the yearling sales was so buoyant that this sector of the market seemed to be recession-proof. A rearrangement of Tattersalls autumn yearling sales programme at Newmarket, giving priority to the Premier Sales of the higher quality yearlings, helped to account for substantially increased prices.

These improvements, however, were largely superficial and do not stand up to analysis. The incidence of success for British-bred horses in pattern races was highest in group three, comprising races of mainly domestic importance, and lowest in group one, comprising the classic and other championship races of international significance. Indeed British-bred horses won only five, one fewer than last year, of the 19 races in group one; Irish-bred horses won twice as many.

The British standard-bearers in group one were Fairy Footsteps in the 1000 Guineas, Cut Above in the St Leger, Count Pahlen in the William Hill Futurity, and Master Willie in the Coronation Cup and the Eclipse Stakes. The Irish-bred Group one winners included the classic celebrities Shergar, Blue Wind and To-Agori-Mou.

BLOODSTOCK SALES 1973-4

Year	Sold	Aggregate	Average
Tattersalls October Yearling			
1973	728	2,872,710	3,946
1974	680	1,409,640	2,073
1975	580	1,712,620	2,936
1976	567	1,546,639	2,728
1977	528	1,867,947	3,538
1978	561	2,809,967	5,008
1979	574	3,730,720	6,500
1980	688	3,875,310	5,632
1981	653	5,268,260	8,068
Goffs Select and Premier			
1973	579	2,461,535	4,251
1974	407	1,455,660	3,577
1975	500	2,779,410	5,559
1976	451	3,402,920	7,545
1977	430	3,872,380	9,006
1978	527	6,282,570	11,921
1979	524	7,449,400	14,216
1980	476	8,229,800	17,289
1981	573	12,100,600	21,118
Tattersalls Houghton Yearling			
1973	443	3,917,590	8,843
1974	442	2,300,180	5,204
1975	401	3,049,420	7,605
1976	416	4,103,880	9,865
1977	494	6,996,940	14,164
1978	477	9,849,800	20,649
1979	427	12,982,200	30,403
1980	461	12,344,750	26,778
1981	378	15,949,500	42,185

Even at the heady level of the Tattersalls Premier Sales the average price for British-bred yearlings of 39,348 guineas trailed behind the average for foreign-bred of 44,261 guineas; while of the 26 yearlings that realised 100,000 guineas or more only 10 were British-bred.

With the leading classic stallion of the day, Mill reef, standing at a fee of £30,000 and the latest Derby winner to go to stud in England — Troy in 1979 — syndicated for £180,000 a share, and with well-bred potential broodmares valued at £100,000 plus, production for the Premier Sales involves heavy investment

If prices at the Premier Sales yielded fair, but hardly excessive profits to many breeders, this was not true of Tattersalls October or the Doncaster St Leger yearling sales, which are the main outlets for the produce of medium and small breeders.

As few high prices distort the average price, the median price conveys a better idea of most breeders' returns. This was 5,600 guineas at the October Sales and 5,000 guineas at the Doncaster Sales in 1981. The costs of production have been estimated professionally at more than £7,000, without taking any account of the stallion fee or depreciation of the mare; it follows that at least half the yearlings at those sales were sold at losses bordering on the catastrophic.

British breeding has changed radically in the last quarter century. It used to be divided into three distinct sectors: commercial suppliers to the foal and yearling markets; large-scale-private breeders producing horses to race for their own pleasure; and hobby breeders with one or two mares devoted mainly to producing jumpers. Now heavy taxation, estate duties and astronomically rising costs have conspired to blur the distinction between the first two sectors.

There has also been a shift from larger to smaller scale breeding units, particularly in the last decade. Whereas the number of studs with 10 or more mares fell from 115 to 86, the number of breeders owning one mare each rose from 3,271 to 4,764 between 1972 and 1980.

Big concessions

It is fortunate that the thoroughbred retains, and is likely to retain in the foreseeable future, sufficient genetic variability for the unexpected to occur. Nominations to Manacle were sold for an average of £593 in the stud season he sired Moorestyle — a European champion over seven furlongs and kindred distances in 1980 and 1981, and heavily overscribed at a fee of £4,000 and £4,000 extra for a live foal for his first season at the National Stud. Nominations to Great Nephew were sold for an average of £2,255 for the stud season in which he sired his first Derby winner, Grundy, and £2,071 for the season in which he sired his second Derby winner, Shergar.

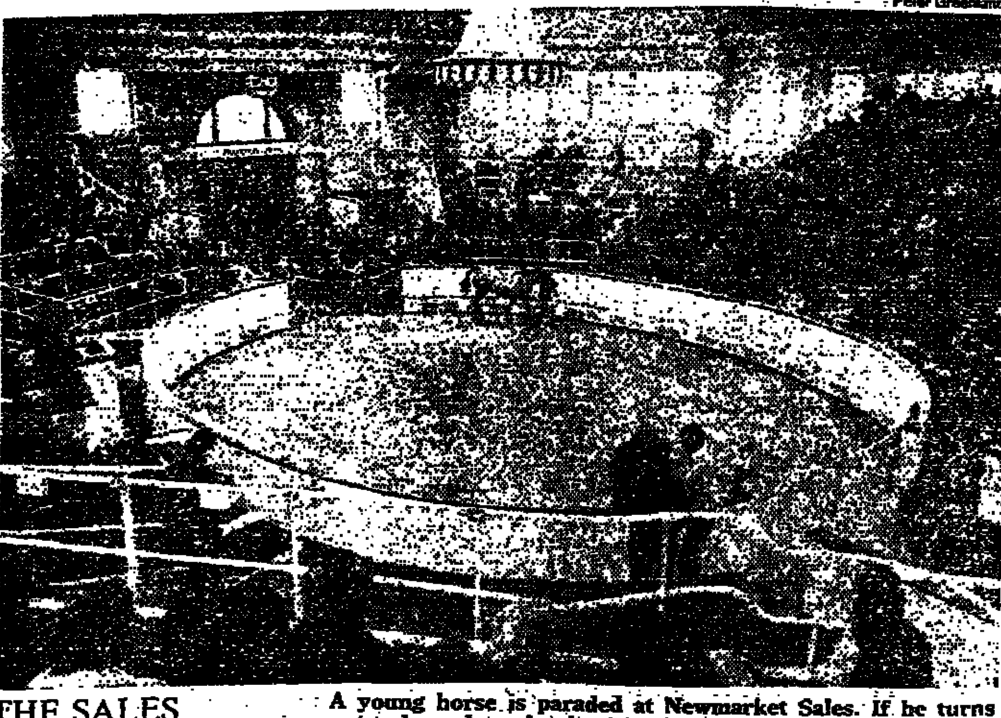
Grundy's great granddam, Lundy Parrot, had been bought for his breeder, the Overbury Stud, for 35 guineas, less than the price of a saddle at the time, during the second world war. Such cheaply-produced horses seldom realise high prices, and Grundy's yearling price of 11,000 guineas was unexceptional though not disastrous.

It is from the sale of the relatives of a high-class horse that a commercial stud can expect big profits, and the total of 712,000 guineas realised by Grundy's five subsequent brothers and half-brothers made the Overbury Stud one of the leading British earners.

Breeders in Ireland and the United States enjoy generous fiscal concessions; breeders in France and most of the United States also benefit from breeders' prizes and premiums for regionally bred horses. British breeders receive no direct financial support, whereas their French rivals received the equivalent of £3.25m in 1980. A further sum of £5.25m was distributed in premiums for French-bred horses, while £340,000 was allocated to a scheme similar, but confined to fillies, in Britain. Nearly 35 per cent of all French Flat races in 1980 were restricted to French-bred horses, but there were no restricted races in Britain.

A substantial revival of British breeding requires measures to enable breeders to compete on more even terms. Concessions on VAT, stock relief and loss relief would greatly assist investment. Far greater sums will have to be allocated to the premium schemes to stimulate the market for British-bred foals and yearlings.

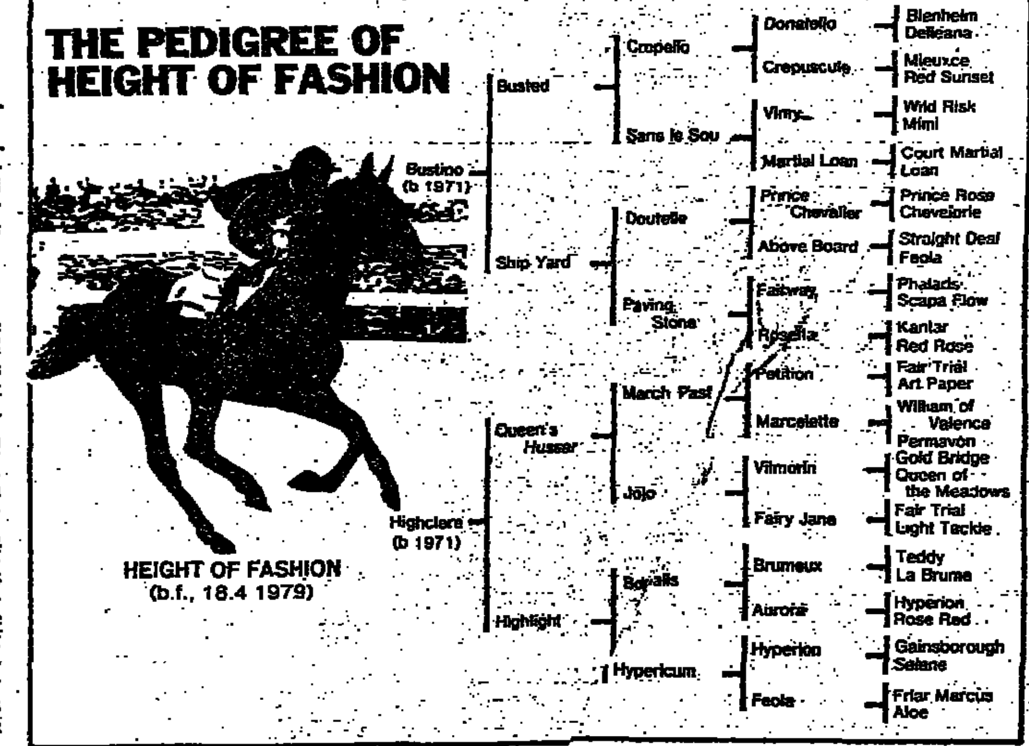
The author is president of the Thoroughred Breeders' Association



THE SALES A young horse is paraded at Newmarket Sales. If he turns out to be a champion he can win his owner a fortune in prize money and stud fees.



THE OFFSPRING His mother to is Altesse Royale (above), winner of three classics; his father Brigadier Gerard, beaten once in 18 races. Yet he won only two moderate events before being exported.



THE FAMILY TREE The Queen's unbeaten filly, favourite for this year's Oaks, is a daughter of Highclere, who won the 1,000 Guineas. Her sire is the St Leger winner Bustino and she has champions on both sides of her pedigree.

Prize money and fixtures hit as Ireland faces decline in levy

By Our Irish Correspondent

The election of Charles Haughey as Prime Minister of the Irish Republic was greeted with mixed feelings in racing circles. The last Haughey administration was the first to impose a tax (1½ per cent) on racecourse betting in July 1980. Previously only the Irish Racing Board (IRB) had the authority to exact a levy on betting with racecourse bookmakers; the proceeds of this six per cent levy enabled the IRB to sustain a good level of prize money.

Last year, when there was an inflation rate of more than 20 per cent, on-course betting dropped slightly from £53,789,344, to £53,555,467. However, the figures are suspect because they are based on returns by bookmakers and not every bet is recorded accurately.

There has been increasing evasion of tax. Bookmakers and clients devised their own private codes, such as entering a £500 bet in the ledger as one of £50.

The recent decline in return from the levy has put the IRB under increasing financial pressure. Late last autumn they announced that, with minor exceptions, they would be unable to increase prize money this year. This represents a drop of 20 per cent in real terms taking inflation into account.

In addition, the racing authorities decided to reduce the fixture list. Meetings which had been long-term losers for the IRB were cancelled and other meetings were permitted only if they came up with £2,000 towards the stakes. The number of meetings in 1982 will be fewer than the 268 in 1981.

Attendances last year were down by six per cent on 1980 and there has been little sign of any reversal in this trend. Indeed without the contribution of sponsors, the prize fund would be substantially down. Last year they provided £453,510 — more than 10 per cent of the annual total of £4,245,518. All five Irish classics now have commercial backing.

Racehorse ownership has displayed an astonishing resilience, with the number of horses in training in Ireland establishing a new record last year. The total of individual starters was 1,778 20 years ago; 2,918 by 1971 and more than 4,500 last season.

With this healthy demand for their produce Irish bloodstock is enjoying a boom and the turnover of Goffs bloodstock sales, the principal auctioneers, soared 11m guineas in 1980 to more than 20m guineas last year. Irish breeders, who by tradition still sell at Tattersalls, also achieved record prices for their yearlings.

Troubled picture in US

By James H. Peden

The international bloodstock industry seems to be dominated by the United States. American-bred horses feature at the top of most European Free Handicap lists; six-figure prize money lures foreign competitors to dispute prestige handicap races; few owners are able to resist the huge sums offered by American-based stallion syndications; and bloodstock sales figures continue to rise faster than inflation. But there is concern as to the health and future of American racing and breeding.

In a recent address to the annual convention of the Thoroughbred Racing Associations of America the president of Churchill Downs, Lynn Stone, described 1981 as being "marked by overall gloomy economic news for thoroughbred race tracks." Betting turnover, on which the industry depends almost entirely for its revenue, increased to $7.5bn. But this was with the aid of more than 200 additional days of racing, and average daily turnover showed an increase of less than two per cent on the previous year.

Mr Stone further referred to "scandals" such as race fixing, hidden ownership and the use of medication which make it difficult to attract new fans and retain old ones.

Without any centralized racing authority, legislation about medication varies from state to state. In an effort to co-ordinate a national policy, the National Association of State Racing Commissioners last year agreed on guidelines which would have virtually outlawed use of anti-inflammmatory medication. But subsequently each of the 25 racing states came forward with their own proposals.

TOMORROW: ADMINISTRATION

SQUASH RACKETS

Chichester pointed to new directions

By Rex Bellamy

The eighth Chichester festival, the third sponsored by Patrick (UK) Ltd, the sportswear company, was a pleasantly startling experience. One felt that reporting professional squash for more than 20 years had merely served as an introduction to what was happening now on the "thrust" stage of the Chichester Festival Theatre. About 1,200 people were watching squash played in a transparent structure that provoked images of all-glass greenhouse or plastic sandwich boxes.

It was not perfect — the side walls were too foggy — but it worked so well that, as a spectator sport, squash had obviously moved into a different class in the entertainment industry. This was a triumph for David Lock and his promotional team; and a triumph, too, for Television South, whose admirable coverage will be better still when the exciting view through the sidewalls can be captured by the camera. Similarly, the spectacle would be even more dramatic if some of the customers could be accommodated behind the front wall.

In addition to its pioneering implications, this was a stimulating tournament in other ways. Five days before the start of the British Open championships, the holders were both beaten by 18-year-old opponents in the Chichester finals.

Lisa Opie, the more talented shot-maker, beat Vicki Cardwell, the more consistent competitor, by 7—9, 9—7, 9—5, 3—9, 9—7 in a tense, tough, often disputatious match in which the harassed referee had to make controversial interpretations of the law concerning obstruction. This was Miss Opie's first win over Mrs Cardwell.

Jahangir Khan, the world champion, beat Geoff Hunt 9—2, 9—2, 9—6, Jahangir reaching 8—0 in the third game before it became clear that the gap between them was not as wide as Jahangir had previously made it seem. These matches lasted the same time, but the women scored 74 points, the men only 37.

The mixture of men's and women's matches is refreshing in its variety. The inevitable comparisons suggest that the women provide more spectacular entertainment because they hit more outright winners and play shorter rallies.



Lisa Opie: 18 years old and in winning form

Jahangir has ended Hunt's supremacy and Australia's hegemony of women's squash is also seriously threatened. The world champion, Rhonda Thorne, and the British Open champion, Mrs Cardwell were both beaten at Chichester, by British players: Jayne Ashton and Miss Opie. Indeed, Mrs Cardwell might have lost a round earlier because Susan Cogswell, more adept at putting the ball away, had a game ball in the first game, and won the next two. The Australians are evidently vulnerable.

Finally, three critical points must be made. They concern professional squash as a whole, with Chichester just an example. First, in squash as in tennis, too many players are confusing entertainment with misconduct. Bad behaviour is a sordid if easy way of attracting attention. Secondly, in these days of transparent courts players must discard the always messy habit of wiping their sweaty hands on the walls.

Third, tournament organizers are becoming far too lax in allowing matches to start late

RACKETS

Mallinson is the name of the game

By Roy McKelvie

The fourth member of the Mallinson Brotherhood at Wellington made his first appearance, albeit unsuccessfully, in the schools rackets championships at Queen's Club yesterday. David Mallinson and his partner lost to the Eton pair, Bailey and Small, by 15-8, 12-15, 15-11, 15-11 in the colts' event.

David and his older brothers, Peter, James and Andrew, who is in the Wellington first pair, have so far played 258 matches for their school, just over 100 of them at first pair level. Peter won the Renny Cup when at school, James and Andrew won the doubles championship in 1980 and James won Blues at Oxford for hockey and rackets. Their home is in Brazil.

The Marlborough pair, Hill and Pinnington, lost a 3-1 game lead against Radley's Windsor Lewis and Snow before winning by 15-10, 10-15, 15,11, 15-3, 13-15, 5-15, 15-7 in the Professionals Cup. Pinnington the most consistent player in court, restored Marlborough's fortunes with a service run of 10 at the start of the final game.

RESULTS: Schools rackets championships, Professionals Cup, 1st round: Marlborough (C Hill, C Pinnington) beat Radley (G Windsor Lewis, C Snow) 15-10, 10-15, 15-11, 15-3, 13-15, 5-15, 15-7. Winchester (C Hall, A Teesil) beat Charterhouse (C Anderson, T Simmons) 17-15, 9-15, 15-8, 15-13, 11-15, 17-15.
Colts championship: First round: Charterhouse (R Allen, A Seddon) beat Rugby (D Martin, R Gray) 15-4, 17-16, 9-15, 15-7. Radley (E Popplewell, M Carr) beat Clifton (A Bishop, M Small) beat Wellington (D Mallinson, A Braithwaite) 15-8, 12-15, 15-11, 15-11. Malvern (C Mason, A Jervons) beat Winchester (S Harford, A Paterson-Moutray) 4-15, 15-7, 6-15, 15-12, 15-7.

Blow for Castleford

Castleford, who meet Hull in the Challenge Cup Semi-final at Leeds tomorrow, suffered a setback yesterday when their full-back Geoff Wraith was suspended for one match by the Rugby League disciplinary committee in Leeds. Wraith was sent off in ths club's second round tie at Hull on Feburary 28.

● Len Casey, the Hull KR and Great Britain forward was suspended for two matches.

HOCKEY

Underdogs surprise the favourites

By Sydney Friskin

UAU 0
Cambridge 0

Cambridge, surprisingly, snatched the British Universities' sports federation title from Universities Athletic Union at Heddon-on-the-Wall, Newcastle, yesterday. There was no score, even after extra time, so after 100 exhausting minutes, Cambridge won on penalty strokes, converting three to the UAU's one.

This was only the second success by Cambridge who had won previously in 1969. But it was their third appearance in the final, having been beaten in 1873 by none other than the UAU. Since 1965 the UAU had won eight times altogether, including 1974, the year they shared the trophy with Oxford.

But those who had predicted a runaway victory yesterday for UAU were soon to be proved wrong. Cambridge, more constructive in attack, had the better of both periods of play in normal times. UAU, despite their stronger resources, relied mainly on individual attacks; in this particular ploy they always looked dangerous. Much of their sharpness in front seemed to have been lost by taking Clift off and bringing Hurry in his place.

But Cambridge owed their success mainly to Mitchell in defence. He tackled tirelessly, cleared with force and his retrieving powers were so good that a UAU forward was seldom allowed to free himself from him. The best of the forwards was Scott, well-supported by Lewis and Atkinson.

The strongest of the UAU defenders was Menzies whose duties were a little more complicated than those of Mitchell because he had to cope with more sustained attacks. Both goal keepers, Ashcroft for UAU, and Barr for Cambridge, played superbly. But is was Barr who deserves high praise for saving a penalty stroke one minute before half time. The frustrated UAU marksman was Lillyman who saw Barr make a splendid diving save.

By the time the match had gone into penalty strokes both goals had survived many a crisis. When it came to the barrage Lillyman again tried to change his directon but was foiled by the goalkeeper for the second time. Mitchell, Scott and finally Atkinson put Cambridge in a winning position as there was no need for the final stroke to be taken by UAU, who were saddened by the death of Friday night of Joe Messer, their manager and a vice-president of the Hockey Association.

CAMBRIDGE: (Queens'); N Dodds (St John's); R Mitchell (St John's); J Bausor (St John's); C Makin (Fitzwilliam); R Miles (Trinity); D Atkinson (Downing, captain); R Scott (St Catharine's); M Lewis (St Catharine's); J Cass (Fitzwilliam); N Gregory (St Catharine's).
UAU: C Ashcroft (UMIST); N Menzies (Southampton); D Cutler (Durham), sub, N Vartan (Durham); D Knott (Loughborough); M French (Newcastle, captain); P Shuttleworth (Durham); K Woodman (Exeter); S Lillyman (Loughborough); M Alcock (City); R Clift (Nottingham, sub, R Hurry (Liverpool); M Gordon (Exeter.)
Umpires: G Foster and G Nash (Northern counties).
RESULTS: For seventh place Oxford 2, Trinity College, Dublin 0; fifth place - Scotland 5, Wales 1; third place - Northern Ireland 1, London 0; Final: Cambridge 0, UAU 0 (Cambridge won 3-1 on penalty strokes.

England must improve their shooting

By Joyce Whitehead

England hope to win the triple crown for the third successive year when they play Ireland in Cork tomorrow but their shooting will have to improve. Last Saturday, England had a setback when the Netherlands defeated them by 4—2. But then th Netherlands are the International Federation of Women's Hockey Association's world champion

England have so far beaten Wales and Scotland but on by the narrowest of margin On both occasions they spent more time in attack than their opponents but they ar handicapped because their shooting is so poor. They are playing well with great determination; and shoot often — too often wide of the mark.

Ireland, improving all the time, are much more difficult to beat on their home ground. They respond eagerly to their wildly enthusiastic crowd, But England should win.

SKIING

Erika Hess close to World title

San Sicario, Italy, March 25 — Erika Hess, of Switzerland, virtually assured herself of the women's World Cup overall title when she finished second in the final giant slalom of the season here today. She now stands 19 points clear of her nearest rival, Irene Epple, of West Germany, and just a breath away from succeeding her countrywoman, the Marie-Therese Nadig, world's top woman skier.

Irene's younger sister, Maria, won today's race after clocking the best time in a breath-taking first run.

Theorectically, Irene still has a chance for the overall title, but she needs to take first place in the final slalom on Saturday.



Hess: 19 points clear

WOMEN'S GIANT SLALOM: Leading Placings: 1, M. Epple (West Germany) 2:23.97; 2, E. Hess (Switzerland) 2:24.33; 3, C. Cooper (United States) 2:24.70; 4, M. Hess (Switzerland) 2:25.26; 5, G. Riedl (Austria) 2:25.98; 6, I. Epple (West Germany) 2:26.09; 7, I Ladstaetter (Austria) 2:26.30; 8, N. Toma (Yugoslavia) 2:26.33; 9, C. Nelson (United States) 2:26.38; 10, R. Steiner (Austria) 2:26.45; 11, P. Pelen (France) 2:26.46; 12, F. Bozon (France) 2:26.63; 13, C. Andeer (Switzerland) 2:26.66; 14, S. Wolf (Austria) 2:26.82; 15, D. Zini (Italy) 2:26.82.
Finals Placings: 1, I. Epple (West Germany) 120 pts; 2, M. Epple (West Germany) 110; 3, E. Hess (Switzerland) 105; 4, T. McKinney (United States) 74; 5, C. Cooper (United States) 69.
OVERALL PLACINGS: 1, E. Hess (Switzerland) 297 pts; 2, I. Epple (West Germany) 278; 3, C. Cooper (United States) 183; 4, C. Nelson (United States) 158; 5, M. Epple (West Germany) 146; 6, U. Konzett (Lichtenstein) 137; 7, L. Soelkner (Austria) 127; 8, P. Pelen (France) 126; 9, T. McKinney (United States) 116; 10, M. Rosa Quario (Italy) 109.

BOXING

New gloves can KO the knockout kings

By Srikumar Sen, Boxing Correspondent

The days of the KO kings may be over in the British ring if the British Boxing Board's new gloves have a hand in the proceedings. These be-kind-to-your-opponent gloves were given a press showing yesterday by the board. They have a closed cell filling that is supposed to take up enough impact to prevent a knockout.

They are based on Mexican gloves, which anyone who has taken a punch on the nose will tell you are the best. The British model have been made by Bryan, of Worcester. They are moulded which means that there are no visible seams. The boxer's fists are always half-clenched so there is no chance of slapping. They are also sweat and vapour resistant. They will not get heavier and heavier with sweat and strain.

I tried on a pair yesterday. They were so comfortable that I felt I could prune my apple tree with them. My colleague Frankie Taylor, a former professional boxer, tried them on and immediately wanted to make a comeback.

The gloves have already been given an outing by Nick Wilshire and Mark Kaylor. While they stopped their opponents at the Albert Hall last week they were unable to put them away. Clearly the gloves will favour the boxer and make the hitter work harder, which will put a premium on fitness. The gloves could also bring some hope to glass-jaw wallahs like Charlie Magri, though he would lose on the swings for he is a hitter too.

The gloves make their championship debut at Wembley on Tuesday when two British boxers try to relieve two Italians of their European titles. Pat Cowdell meets Salvatore Melluzzo and Maurice Hope faces Luigi Minchillo.

It is just as well that these two gentlemen do not speak or understand a word of English; they might not have been amused by the theory expounded by the promoter Mickey Duff at the unveiling of the gloves yesterday. Mr Duff thinks that Latins have a soft upper lip when it comes to facing up to a hiding.

Look at Guinaldo v Watt, Tonna v Minter, Hernandez v Boza Edwards, Duran v Leonard. Well that is interesting. I wonder what a guy named Rocky Marciano, an Italian immigrant's son born in Brockton Massachusetts, would have thought about that one. We shall be testing out two theories on Tuesday: the Board's and Mr Duff's.

ICE SKATING

Torvill and Dean at gala

By John Hennessy

Jayne Torvill and Christopher Dean return to this country today to claim their kingdom. They will be the star attractions of the St. Ivel Gala of world champions at Richmond tonight. Since the event, unusually for a sporting occasion these days, lives up to its billing, it promises to be quite a night.

The winners of all 12 medals in the recent world chapionships will be appearing, supported by a few local skaters, including Karen Barber and Nicholas Slater, second only to Torvill and Dean among British ice dancers.

The impact made by the British champions in the defence of their world title in Copenhagen was confirmed by the television ratings, published in The Times on Tuesday. These showed the broadcast of the ice dance final as joint seventh in the BBC1 list, with 11.6 million viewers.

All seats for tonight have long since been taken, but it may still be possible to pay at the door for a standing position to see Torvill and Dean take the newly-painted roof off Richmond Ice Rink.

RACING

Inauspicious start to Starkey classic hopes

By Michael Seely

The 1982 Flat racing season opened on a sensational note at Doncaster yesterday when Greville Starkey and Bold Hawk were disqualified after beating Steve Cauthen and Steel Venture in the French Gate Stakes. Bold Hawk was disqualified and placed last, the race being awarded to Steel Venture.

The incident occurred just inside the three-furlong marker when Starkey pulled the favourite off the rails, apparently interfering with Wolfie, who eventually finished fifth. The matter has been referred to the stewards of the Jockey Club.

Starkey has now been found guilty of four offences under Rule 151 in the past 19 months. This rule relates to such offences as careless, reckless and dangerous riding. Twice last season Starkey received lengthy sentences, being suspended for 14 days for reckless riding on Bonol at Royal Ascot in June and again when being banned from the saddle for 21 days in September, on this occasion for his careless riding of Escapism at Salisbury.

If the stewards at Portman Square take a serious view of this latest offence it will be hard luck on Bold Hawk's trainer, Guy Harwood, with Classic candidates such as Sandhurst Prince, Hays and Norwick, who are all due to swing into action shortly.

This incident will not, of course, prevent Starkey from riding Home Coming, the Linclon favourite, tomorrow as no action can be taken until the jockey has been seen by the authorities.

Harwood, at least, has the consolation of knowing his horses are in good form as does Barry Hills, the trainer of Steel Venture, who has the heavily-backed Herbie Quayle engaged in tomorrow's big race.

Other trainers with horses due to run in the Lincoln also received encouragement for their hopes yesterday. After Philip Mitchell had saddled Telsmoss to run out a narrow winner of the Bertie Bassett Handicap, the Epsom trainer said: "King's Glory had his final gallop this morning. He worked like a dream and is fit, happy and well. He will run the race of his life."

Mitchell was also thrilled with the running of Telamoss who is as game and plucky a horse as has ever looked through a bridle. "I am especially pleased that he has come to hand so early this season. The Chester Cup is his main objective but before that he will go for the Queen's prize at Kempton. "Telsmoss was admirably ridden by that talented apprentice, Bryn Crossley.

Supporters of Winart in the big race also received encouragement after Silver Season had finished second to Prince's Gate in the Doncaster Mile. Indian King, the favourite, failed to stay, after running much too freely.

Clive Brittain, Silver Season's trainer, said: "If you want to do yourselves a good turn get on Winart after what he did to Silver Season last Saturday. And Silver Season is not a bad trial horse. He worked well with Braughing before my horse won the Cambridgeshire last autumn."

Prince's Gate started at a generous price of 4-1, considering that the colt had the measure of his opponents on all known form and was also guaranteed to stay the distance.

Ryan Price also received a boost for the hopes of the well-backed Bunter after the Findon trainer's Sonseri had run out a comfortable winner of the Bronte Stakes. Ladbrokes now bet as follows on the Lincoln. They have Home Coming as their favourite at 7-1. They then go 8-1 Bunter, 9-1 Winart, 10-1 Herbie Quayle, 11-1 against King's Glory.



Flying start: Paul Cook achieves his first success of the new season on Princes Gate.

Doncaster

Tote Double: 3.0 and 4.05. Treble 2.30, 3.30 &4.35.

[Televison:(ITV) 2.30, 3.00 & 3.30 races]

2.0 BESSOACARR STAKES (2-y-o: selling £1,350 1m) (17 runners)

1	400000-	ALLAN WELLS (B) (A Thomson) T Craig 9-0	W Carson	10
2	20300-	ASH KING (Mrs J Dunlop) W Musson 9-0	P Eddery	7
4	000310-	BRAIBUNDI CHEWUNJA (Maj P Bailey) J Wilson 9-0	Mark Wood 7	1
7		CHRISTMAS CRACKER (Mrs D Wintle) D Wintle 9-0	—	6
9	023-	HIGH PITCHED (G Pritchard-Gordon) R Smyth 9-0	B Raymond	13
11	00-	KING'S MARCH (W Ponsonby) W Musson 9-0	P D'Arcy	16
13	0001-	PRINCELY GEM (W Shennan) J Etherington 9-0	J Seagrave	8
15	00-	SEVERN SOVEREIGN (E Skinner) D Wintle 9-0	C McNamee	3
16		SOPRANO BOY (Mrs C Brittain) C Brittain 9-0	S Cauthen	9
17	041030-	SOVEREIGNS IMAGE (D) (Heathavon Stables Ltd) R Hollinshead 8-11	S Perks	15
18	003-	BLOW MY TOP (Mrs S Goldblatt) P Cundell 8-11	C Cox 7	5
19	023040-	DRAGON FIRE (J Nichols) M Ryan 8-11	P Robinson	12
21	03340-	KATE'S WISH (Mrs J Hyland) J Fitzgerald 8-11	C Dwyer	14
22	0-	MY LADY BLUE (K Boydell) D Ancil 8-11	Paul Eddery 5	2
23	000000-	PRINCESS SALUKI (W Austin) R Whitaker 8-11	M Fozzard 7	17
24	002	SPARE WHEEL (Mrs S Goldblatt) P Cundell 8-11	P Cook	11
25	00-	ZERO READER (Miss J Lowsley) P Cundell 8-11	J Lowe	4

3 High Pitches, 4 Sovereign's Image, 6 Allan Wells, 8 Ash King, and Princely Gem, 10 Kate's Wish, 12 Dragon Fire, Soprano Boy, 14 Spare Wheel, 16 others.

2.30 BROOKE BOND COFFEE TIME CUP (Amateurs: £2,155: 1¼m 50yd) (30)

1	322114-	DAY AFTER (A Sheldrake) S Mellor 6-11-2	D Gray	26
2	302300-	MARKIE (K Bebbington) R Peacock 6-11-2	Carmen Peacock 5	27
4	220001-	NO-U-TURN (S Tindall) S Mellor 4-11-2	Elain Mellor	17
5	00/0000-	SCHOLAR'S RING (Elisha Holding) Mrs Pitman 8-11-2	Amanda Harvey 5	7
7	000/000-	WHISPER GENTLY (Maj L Sward) M Francis 5-10-13	Maj L Sward	3
8	122420-	COOL DECISION (C Platts) Miss S Hall 5-10-12	C Platts	2
9	040313-	LAUTREC (C Wood) R Smyth 4-10-12	C Wood	30
10	001000/	MR MUSIC MAN (Mrs C Reavey) Mrs C Reavey 8-10-12	Karen Williams 5	23
11	000330-	SIR MORDRED (Mrs D Brewster) M H Easterby 5-10-12	T Easterby	24
12	001340	ABU TORKEY (J Blundell) J Blundell 5-10-8	P Gee 5	13
13	422112-	BATTALION (D Chapman) D Chapman 4-10-8	T Walford	28
16	0/4231	JASSIM (P Winfield) P Cundell 4-10-8	Joy Penn	15
18	012000-	LEONIDAS (G Ward) R Houghton 4-10-8	Gaile Johnson Houghton	14
19	300000-	SCARLET TOWN (S Reakes) R Hollinshead 4-10-8	A Hollinshead 5	10
20		STYREN (A Wylie) C Bell 5-10-8	Margaret Bell	5

[illegible]

3.0 DONCASTER TOWN PLATE (Handicap: £7,927: 2¼m) (16)

[illegible]

3.30 CROWN PLUS TWO APPRENTICE CHAMPIONSHIP HANDICAP (ROUND 1: £2,737: 1m) (18)

[illegible]

FORM: Jims Tricks (6st 8lb), faded last half mile, not in first nine to Shademah (rec 16lb). 16 ran. Newbury, Oct 24, 1m, soft. Ring Bidder, early season sort, (7-7), always struggling when not in first nine to seven hearts (gave 18lb). 12 ran. York, Oct 10, 1m 1f, soft. O I Oyston, consistent, (8-12), led until wknd 2 out, 6th, btn 8l, to Secret Gill (gave 4lb). 2 ran. Doncaster, Oct 23, 7f, good to soft. Twickenham, unpl over hurdles Mar 8, (7-8), ran on, caught on line, 2nd, btn sh hd, to Swift Palm (rec 9lb) with Steeley Shadow (rec 5lb) and Carriage Way (rec 3lb) not in first nine. 25 ran. Doncaster, Nov 7, 1m (round), good. Carriage Way, see Twickenham, won this race last year with 9-1

SELECTION: Twickenham.

4.05 GREY FRIARS STAKES (2-y-o maidens: 5f) (5)

1	ANNAMOE BRAY (J Knowles) J Wilson 9-0	Mark Wood 7	1
2	PANDAN (C Barber-Lomax) T Fairhurst 9-0	M Beecroft 7	4
3	PENTLAND JAVELIN (S Hill) R Hollinshead 9-0	S Perks	5
4	SUPER WARRIOR (T Batten) K Ivory 9-0	K Leason	2
5	FLASHPOINT (J Quesnel) B Swift 8-11	M L Thomas	3

6-4 Flashpoint, 5-2 Pentland Javelin, 3 Pandan, 8 Super Warrior, 16 Annamoe Bray.

4.35 WILL SCOTT HANDICAP (£2,380: 5f) (11)

1	000-	SUSARMA (Mrs E O'Gorman) W O'Gorman 6-10-0	T Ives	7
2	311000-	TOUCH BOY (CD,B) (G Mullin) J Berry 6-9-6	E Hide	6
3	024-	CONGO EXPRESS (Capt M Lemos) C Brittain 4-9-0	W Carson	1
4	20300d-	BOLD SCUFFLE (D) (G Smith) R Hollinshead 4-8-11	S Perks	10
5	0/0002-	NEW EMBASSY (D) (D Thorne) G Balding 5-8-7	R Weaver	11
6	001000-	FRIENDLY FUN (D) (R Murray) N Crump 7-8-5	J Matthias	9
8	000200-	PIENCOURT (Mrs E Richards) C Austin 4-8-1	B Rouse	4
9	302000-	EL PRESIDENTE (D) (Perivale Formwork Ltd) K Ivory 4-7-7	P Howard 7	5
10	002000-	BANBURY CROSS (C) (Major H Cayzer) 4-7-7	S Dawson 7	3
11	240021-	MISS POINCIANA (D) (A Goscher) M Camacho 5-7-7	N Carlisle 5	8
12	300000-	ANDY LOU (D) (A Swift) G Toft 4-7-7	K Darley	2

3 Bold Scuffle, 4 Touch Boy, Congo Express, 7 Friendly Fun, 8 Miss Poinciana, 10 New Embassy, 12 Susarma, 14 Banbury Cross, 16 others.

Doncaster Selections

By Michael Seely

2.0 Alan Wells, 2.30 Cool Decision, 3.0 Cheka, 3.30 Twickenham, 4.5 Pandan, 4.35 Bold Scuffle.

By Our Newmarket Correspondent

2.0 Ash King, 2.30 Telegrams Again, 3.0 Donegal Prince, 3.30 Rekal, 4.35 Congo Express.

Newbury selections

By Our Racing Correspondent

2.0 Double Florin, 2.30 Trews Way, 3.0 Borum Omen, 3.30 Jubilee Medal, 4.0 Tan Trood, 4.30 Arctic Warbler.

OFFICIAL SCRATCHINGS: all engagements (dead) Drum Major, Indium, The Bosuns Chair, Amharic, Pethias, River Harbour, Bowthead, French Lane, Tower ...

STATE OF GOING (official). — Doncaster: Good. Newbury: Hurdles, soft; chase, good to soft. ...

Newbury

Tote Double: 3.0 and 4.0. Treble 2.30, 3.30 and 4.30.

2.0 MARCH HURDLE (Div I: Novices: £1,367: 2m 100yd) (27 runners)

2.30 BRIMPTON HURDLE: (£2,334: 2¼m 120yds) (15)

3.0 WOODHAY CHASE (Handicap: £2,578: 3m 2f 82yd) (12)

3.30 RAILWAY HURDLE (Handicap: £2,334: 2m 100yds) (18)

4.0 ARDINGTON CHASE (Novices: £2,274: 3m) (18)

4.30 MARCH HURDLE (Div II: Novices: £1,384: 2m 100yds) (19)

[illegible]

Devon and Exeter

[illegible]

Impressive Care to go chasing

Care, who beat the subsequent Cheltenham Sun Alliance Hurdle winner, Mister Donovan in a bumper race in Ireland in November, was an impressive winner of the first division of the *Greens Norton Novices Hurdle* at Towcester yesterday.

The six-year-old, bought in Ireland just before Christmas by the Wantage trainer Tim Forster for Simon Sainsbury, was supplementing a Worcester win earlier this month, Hywel Davies jumped him into the lead five flights out and from that point he was always in complete command.

Care, who was not extended to score by four lengths from Prosperine, looks sure to make into a useful steeplechaser. "If the going remains soft I might give him one more outing over hurdles before schooling him for fencing next season" Forster said.

Edwards waits on gallop

Again The Same's participation in the Grand National depends on a gallop next Monday morning. His Ross-on-Wye trainer, John Edwards said "He will only go to Aintree if I am one hundred per cent happy after his gallop".

Again The Same, at 16-1, is one of the best backed horses in the National and is the intended mount of this season's leading jockey, Peter Scudamore.

Doncaster results

Going: Good.

2.00 (2 04) BROCKLESBY STAKES. (2-Y-O. £1,707 50)

BRONDESBURY b c, by Welsh Saint—Whistling Tudor (A Foustok) 8-11 T Ives (6-4 fav) 1

Pangulo E Hide (8-1) 2

Bee Dee P Eddery (5-1) 3

TOTE: Win: 27p. Places: 11p, 25p, 25p. Dual f: 63p. CSF: £1.56. W O'Gorman at Newmarket (10-1) 4th. 12 ran

2.35 (2 38) BERTIE BASSETT HANDICAP. (£3,298 1½m)

[illegible]

Towcester

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Motoring by Peter Waymark

New rider test spells chaos

The new two-part motor cycling test, which is among a series of government measures to reduce the high level of casualties among motor cyclists, comes into operation on Monday amid charges from the industry that the training and testing of young riders is heading for chaos.

The Motor Cycle Association of Great Britain claims there will not be sufficient facilities to meet the demand for tests over the next few months and it is asking for a postponement of the next part of the government package, the ban on learner drivers riding machines above 125 cc.

The association argues that the October 1 deadline will produce an enormous increase in applicants for the test, because after that date learners with 250 cc, 200 cc or 150 cc machines will no longer legally be able to ride them.

According to the association, the majority of learner drivers have motor cycles with a capacity greater than 125 cc and they will be anxious to pass the test before the restriction comes in. If they do not, they will either be forced off the road or have to sell a machine on which they may owe more on hire purchase than they can realize on the secondhand market.

The chances of all the likely applicants being able to obtain tests by October 1, the association says, are slim, partly because of the numbers being fed into the system but also because of the long waiting times for tests. The national average (cars or motor cycles; there are no separate figures) is 12 weeks. In the London area it is 19 weeks.

Part one is an off-road test of handling and controlling the machine and preferably should be taken after a period of training. The Department of Transport will offer limited facilities to test part-one candidates but is devolving most of the work to outside bodies. The Motor Cycle Association doubts whether the provisions for both training and testing will be adequate. Part two is the existing on-road test and it will be adminstered by the department.

On facilities, the announcement that one of the longest established motor cycle training schemes, the RAC/ACU, is to close down, could not have come at a worse time. The scheme has been in existence for 35 years and has operated, mainly through unpaid volunteers, at more than 350 centres. But it has been unable to attract the funds necessary to cope with the new test requirements.

The Motor Cycle Association contends that the October 1 deadline for banning learners from machines over 125 cc is impractical and has asked that it should be extended for six months to allow drivers to pass the test on their existing bikes.

I understand that the Department of Transport is unlikely to be sympathetic.

The Government is also confident that there will be enough testing and training facilities. In August it invited training bodies to apply for appointments to conduct part of the test and more than 100 have done so. To date, 400 test centres have been approved and others will be added to the list. The Star Rider national training scheme, the largest of its kind in the world, will be available at 360 sites.

The cost of a Star Rider training course will be £22.50 for 12 one-hour sessions. Test fees for part one will be fixed by training organizations but are expected to be around £12.50. The fee for part two will be £13.

The other new measure, restricting the period during which a learner driver can hold a provisional licence, has also been criticized by motor cycle bodies. At the moment there is nothing to stop a motor cyclist riding on L plates for the rest of his or her life by constantly renewing the provisional licence. Large numbers of riders never bother to take the test for this reason.

From October 1, however, failure to pass both parts of the test within two years will mean the rider having to stay off the road for one year before being able to apply for another licence.

Behind all these measures is the Government's concern at the numbers killed and seriously injured in motor cycle accidents. Motor cycling is the most dangerous form of road transport and the biggest single cause of death among teenagers. In 1980, motorcycles accounted for only 2½ per cent of road casualties. For every mile travelled, motor cyclists are 30 times more likely to be killed or injured than car drivers.

The object of the two-part test is to persuade more new riders to take formal training. It is estimated that only 15 per cent now do so compared with the 90 per cent of car drivers who have professional instruction.



Power with economy — the Mercedes-Benz SEC coupé.

Mercedes-Benz 500 SEC

The new Mercedes coupé, which went on sale in Britain this week, perfectly illustrates the company philosophy of evolution rather than revolution. At first glance, it looks very similar to the previous model and yet every body panel has been changed. And while retaining the basic mechanical specification, Mercedes has achieved a very significant improvement in fuel consumption. There are two versions: the 3.8 litre 380 at £25,700 and the 5 litre 500 at £28,700.

The body shell was designed with the twin aims of maintaining continuity of style and improving aerodynamics. The drag coefficient of 0.34 is, in fact, one of the lowest on a production car. The most obvious change is at the front, where the radiator grille now slopes upwards to promote a smoother flow of air over the body. The by-product is a cleaner appearance.

Mercedes has followed the policy on previous coupés of dispensing with central door pillars and providing a wide door to help access to the rear seats. This presented a problem, however when it came to fitting the front seat belts. The ingenious solution is an extending arm which moves forward as the ignition is switched on and offers the belt to the driver and a front seat passenger at shoulder height. The arm waits for 30 seconds before going back.

To reduce weight the bonnet and boot lid are made from light alloy. Mechanically, the car is similar to the S Class saloon, though it has a slightly shorter floorpan. Cruise control, central locking and electrically operated sun roof, front seat adjustment, windows and door mirror are standard on both versions, while the 500 also has the impressive anti-lock braking system.

The new coupés benefit from fuel saving measures which on the S Class saloons have produced average improvements, according to the official consumption tests, of 27 per cent. It is a considerable achievement, made possible through higher gearing, tuning of the automatic transmission to engage high gears sooner and reducing idling speed.

The result is that the 500 SEC gives a respectable 18.6 mpg on the urban cycle, 31 mpg at 56 mph and 24.8 mpg at 75 mph. It also betters its main British rival, the Jaguar XJS, itself the subject of a fuel saving exercise with the fitting last year of the May cylinder head. But the Jaguar's figures are still only 15.6, 27.1 and 22.1 respectively.

The Mercedes economy programme has not been realized at the expense of performance, and the latest 500 saloon is, in mid-range acceleration, actually quicker than its thirstier predecessor. The coupé returns similar figures, which, for the record, are 0 to 60 mph in eight seconds and a top speed of 140 mph. If the Mercedes V8 is not quite as fast as the Jaguar V12, performance is still more than adequate.

Again, the engine is a little short of Jaguar standard on refinement but even hard driving will produce nothing worse than a muffled drone. The higher gearing means quieter long distance cruising, while the improved aerodynamics ensure negligible wind noise. But in all driving conditions, from heavy town traffic to the motorway, this is a most civilized car.

The enjoyment of driving is assisted by a smooth automatic transmission and a power steering system that removes most of the effort but leaves plenty of feel. The brakes, all-disc, give a powerful and progressive response. For a large vehicle, the car handles crisply and it holds the road superbly.

Unlike many coupés this is not a two-plus-two but sensibly provides proper backseat accommodation for two adults. There is a large boot.

My main criticism is of the ride, with the firmly tuned suspension setting up a choppy feel on poor surfaces. It must also be said that the car is very expensive and that the XJS, at £18,900, is almost a bargain in comparison.

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Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Davalle

BBC 1

6.40 Open University. The Historical Legacy. 7.30 History of Mathematics. Ends at 7.55. At 9.00: Schools. Biology. 9.25 Play Tennis. 9.52 The Boy from Space. 10.15 It's Maths!. 10.38 Maths File (three dimensions). 11.00 Hyn o Fyd (The Romans Spreading through Europe) — for Welsh viewers. 11.22 Talkabout: The Challenging Bull. 11.40 Going to Work (hairdressing). 12.05 Plants in Action (To spray or not to spray?). 12.30 News After Noon. 12.57 Financial Report. And news headlines. 1.00 Pebble Mill at One: includes Peter Seabrook's gardening item. And Living with Leisure. 1.45 Bagpuss. 2.02 For Schools, Colleges: Two football referees are interviewed. 2.35 A Good Job with Prospects: The Financial World. 3.00 Closedown. 3.20 Pobol y Cwm: serial in Welsh. 3.55 Play School: Same as BBC 2 at 11.00 am.

4.20 Captain Caveman: cartoon. 4.30 Jackanory: Nerys Hughes reads from Berlie Doherty's How Green You Are!

4.45 Finders Keepers: Electronic battleships game, compered by Richard Stilgoe. The competing schools are Harston County Primary, Cambridge and Park Lane Primary, Tilehurst.

5.10 The Song and the Story: Isla St Clair visits coal mines and cotton mills and sings songs of the Industrial Revolution era (r). 5.35 The Perishers. Comedy series for children. With Leonard Rossiter, Sheila Steafel, Judy Bennett and Peter Hawkins (r).

5.40 News: with Richard Baker. 6.00 South East at Six. 6.22 Nationwide: with the last of Glyn Worsnip's films about the House of Lords. Tonight the political factors. Desmond Lynam presents Sportswide at 6.45.

7.00 Film: Towards the Unknown (1956) Aerial drama, with William Holden as the Korea war veteran who becomes a test pilot during the early days of rocket-powered flight. Co-starring Virginia Leith and Lloyd Nolan.

8.50 Points of View: Barry Took comments on viewers' letters.

9.00 News: with John Simpson. Also the weather prospects for the weekend.

9.25 McCain's Law: Police drama series, starring James Arness in the title role and Marshall Colt as his fellow officer. Tonight: there is a warning that a group of terrorists are planning an assassination.

10.15 Eight from Ten: What happened to a bachelor, Mike Vicary, after he learned that he had won three quarters of a million pounds on the pools. The film was filmed over a period of six months, and shows that Mr Vicary adopted a new way of life.

10.50 Film: No Drums, No Bugles (1972) Drama, set in the days of the American Civil War. Martin Sheen plays the runaway soldier who finds refuge in a cave and decides to spend the rest of the war there. It is a story of courage, based on fact. Co-starring Davey Davison, Rod McCary, Denine Terry and members of the North-South Skirmish Association. Directed and written by Clyde Ware. Ends at 12.20 am.

BBC 2

6.40 Open University: Enzyme, Structure and Function. 7.05 Earth Materials (3). 7.30 Statistics: binomial distribution. Open University programmes end at 7.44 am. At 11.00 Play School. Today's story, by Fred Harris, is called Junk Shop Jim. The presenters are Lola Young and Fred Harris (this same programme can also be seen on BBC1 this afternoon, at 3.55). 11.25 Closedown. 3.55 Film: Great Day *(1944) Drama, with Flora Robson as the woman married to a heavy drinker (Eric Portman) in a village which expects a visit from Eleanor Roosevelt. Also starring Sheila Sim, Isabel Jeans, Walter Fitzgerald and Philip Friend. Directed by Lance Comfort.

5.10 Wages of Action: Religion in a remote Hindu village in northern India (r); 5.35 Weekend Outlook: OU preview.

5.40 Sherlock Holmes: Terror by Night* (1946) Holmes and Watson have a diamond delivery mission. With Basil Rathbone, Nigel Bruce.

6.40 Deer Heart: Teenager entertainment. With Toyah Willcox, B.A. Robertson; 7.05 News. With sub-titles.

7.10 Gardeners' World: Dutch flowers and plants; and Kent garden designer John Easton.

7.35 Newsweek: A Nuclear Tomorrow? Is nuclear power essential? Safe?

8.10 Iris Williams: The musical cruise ends. The Welsh singer goes ashore at Naples. With harpist David Snell, the flautist Elena Duran, the Light Blues.

8.50 The Woodwidge View: New series begins. What goes on at Caesars Palace in Las Vegas, known to some as Disneyland for Adults.

9.40 Playhouse: The Guest. Black comedy by Pauline Macaulay, adapted from a story by Gerald Durrell. With Anton Rodgers, Judy Cornwell and Brewster Mason. The story of a gourmets' tour of France.

10.20 Scoop: News quiz, with Sue Arnold, David Dimbleby, Miles Kington and Julian Pettifer. The MC is Richard Stilgoe.

10.50 Newsnight: news and comment.

11.30 International Badminton: The John Player All England Championships. From Wembley Arena.

11.55 Friday Night, Saturday Morning. The host is Alexander Chancellor. With Jo Grimond, April Ashley, Taki and Jeffrey Barnard. Ends at 12.50.

ITV/LONDON

9.35 For Schools. Reading with Lenny; 9.47 New Elizabethan age; 10.09 Bundles of Ten; 10.21 Physics; 10.43 Geography; 11.05 Festivals; 11.22 Water; 11.34 Craft, Design and Technology; 11.55 Comic Stories; 12.00 Song Book; with Kathy Jones, Leo Dove and Susan Moscos; 12.10 Once Upon a Time: Brer Rabbit and Brer Bear; 12.30 Second Thoughts: Community education in the Thames area. Includes a visit to a parents' maths and numeracy class in Hempstead; 1.00 News; 1.20 Thames area news; 1.30 Bailey's Bird: A new resting place for a chapel tree; 2.00 After Noon Plus; 2.25 Racing from Doncaster. We see the 2.30, 3.00 and 3.30. 3.45 Wild, Wild World of Animals: A film about the octopus (r). How it copes with its enemies, makes its home, and gets its food (r).

4.15 Dr Snuggles: the inventor with Peter Ustinov's voice(r); 4.20 Razzmatazz: pop music show. With Clare Grogan of Altered Images, and film actress Leslie Ash.

4.45 The Haunting of Cassie Palmer: Part five of the drama serial about a spiritual medium's daughter (Helen Probyn). There is talk of hidden treasure.

5.15 Square One: The big board game, conducted by Joe Brown. With Sharron Davies and Fogwell Flax as guest players.

5.45 News; 6.00 The Six o'Clock Show; Lighthearted news magazine, staged live in front of a studio audience.

7.00 Family Fortunes: The Bob Monkhouse quiz show. The Saxton family from Sheffield play the Robinson family from Tottenham, London.

7.30 Hawaii Five-O: Thriller about the murder of an archaeologist. The guest star is Geraldine Page.

8.30 The Gaffer: Comedy series set in a small engeneering firm run by Bill Maynard. Tonight: factory floor complications following the death of a car.

9.00 We'll Meet Again: Dramd series about American airmen stationed in an English village during the Second World War. Weary after a week of costly missions over Europe, the crew of B17 Ginger Rogers go to London for a night on the town. And Helen Dereham (Susannah York) worries increasingly about her feelings for Major Kiley (Michael J. Shannon). The London trip offers no relief for the battle-weary airmen, but is far from uneventful.

10.00 News from ITN.

10.30 Bizarre: The American-made comedy show, starring Jack Byner.

11.00 The London Programme: The Fight to Buy Council Homes. An inquiry into the tactics which two councils—Lambeth and Greenwich—are adopting to obstruct those council house tenants who are interested in buying their homes. Includes an interview with John Stanley, the Minister for Housing.

11.45 Thriller: Screamer. The victim of a rape attack (Pamela Franklin) goes on a trail of revenge. Co-starring Donal McCann, Frances White, Jim Morton and Derek Smith.

12.55 Close: Roy Plomley reads one of his favourite poems.

Radio 4

6.00 News Briefing.
6.10 Farming Today.
6.30 Today, 6.45 Prayer for the Day. 7.00, 8.00 Today's News. 7.30, 8.30 News Headlines. 7.45 Thought for the Day.
8.35 Yesterday in Parliament.
8.57 Weather. Travel.
9.00 News.
9.05 Desert Island Discs. Castaway: Lord Miles.
9.45 Feedback. Your views in BBC radio and television.
10.00 News.
10.02 International Assignment.
10.30 Daily Service.
10.45 Morning Story: "The Colonel's Lady" by Somerset Maugham.
11.00 News. Travel.
11.05 The Fall of the Shah "Facing the Inevitable".
11.50 Bird of the Week. The Curlew.
12.00 News.
12.02 You and Yours.
12.27 My Word!
12.55 Weather and Programme News.
1.00 The World at One.
1.40 The Archers.
2.00 News.
2.02 Woman's Hour.
3.00 News and Travel.
3.02 Play: "The Pot of Gold" by Titus Maccius Plautus.†
4.05 Poetry Please.†
4.15 What's That You're Reading? With Frances Donnelly.
4.45 Story Time: "The Last Resort" by Pamela Hansford Johnson (3).
5.00 News.
5.55 Weather.
6.00 News and Financial Report.
6.30 Going Places.
7.00 News.
7.05 The Archers.
7.20 Pick of the Week.†
8.10 Profile. A personal portrait
8.30 Any Questions?
9.15 Letter from America.
9.30 Kaleidoscope.
9.59 Weather.
10.00 The World Tonight.
10.35 Week Ending.†
11.00 A Book at Bedtime: "Gorky Park" by Martin Cruz Smith.†
11.15 The Financial World Tonight.
11.30 Today in Parliament.
11.45 Miles Kington.
12.00 News and Weather.

VHF with 1 above except as follows: 6.25-6.30 Weather and Travel. 9.05 For Schools. 10.30-10.45 Listen with Mother. 11.00-12.00 For Schools. 2.00-3.00 For Schools. 5.50-5.55 PM. 11.20-12.00 Study on 4. 11.00 Modern Russian Writers. 11.30 Get by in Spanish.

Radio 3

6.55 Weather.
7.00 News.
7.05 Morning Concert † Susato, Vivaldi, Haydn records.
8.00 News.
8.05 Morning Concert (continued) Handel, Schubert, Stanford, Stravinsky, records.
9.00 News.
9.05 This Week's Composer † Liszt; records.
10.00 Vanessa Scott † Song recital: Brahms, Poulenc, Turina, Satie.
10.50 Clarinet Quintets † Recital: Weber, Wellesz.
11.35 BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra † Concert: Chopin, Nielsen.
1.00 News.
1.05 Violin and Piano † Recital: Schubert, Janacek.
1.50 Guitar Recital † Luis de Narvaez, Alonso Mudarra, Villa-Lobos, Leo Brouwer.
2.15 Beethoven and Schumann † Piano recital.
3.00 Orchestra of St. John's, Smith Square † Concert: Mozart, Elizabeth Maconchy, Haydn
4.00 Edington Festival † A sequence for Lent, recorded last year at Edington Priory
4.55 News.
5.00 Mainly for Pleasure †
6.55 Play it Again Preview
7.00 Goethe's Poetry. Last of three selections translated and presented by Michael Hamburger.
7.30 BBC Symphony Orchestra † Concert direct from the Busoni, Bartok.
8.25 Bakky. A Short story by Linda Potter.
8.45 Concert † Part 2: Beethoven.
9.40 Words. Talk by Gerald Long (r).
9.45 Samuel Barber † Piano recital.
10.10 Cesar Franck † String Quartet recital.
11.00 News.
11.05 Randall Thompson † on record.

VHF only – Open University. 5.55am The Baby Street Kids. 6.15 Magnetic Circuits. 6.35 Cognitive Development. 11.20 pm Organic Chemistry: CM441 11.40 Men, Women and Language. 12.00 Maths: Complex Analysis. 12.20 am Complex Analysis. 12.40-1.00 Ferro-Concrete.


Yehudi Menuhin: Radio 3, 7.30 pm

Radio 2

5.00 Ray Moore † 7.30 Terry Wogan † 10.00 Jimmy Young † 12.00 Gloria Hunniford † 2.00 pm Ed Stewart † 4.00 David Hamilton † 5.45 News. 6.00 John Dunn † 8.00 Victor Silvester Jr. and his Orchestra at the Radio 2 Ballroom † 8.45 Friday Night is Music Night † 10.00 Listen to Lee. 10.30 Anything for a Laugh. 11.00 Brian Matthew † from Midnight. 1.00 Truckers' Hour † 2.00-5.00 You and the Night and the Music †

Radio 1

5.00 As Radio 2. 7.00 Mike Read. 9.00 Simon Bates. 11.30 Dave Lee Travis. 2.00 Paul Burnett. 3.30 Steve Wright. 5.30 Newsbeat. 5.45 Roundtable. 7.00 Andy Peebles. 10.00 The Friday Rock Show † 12.00 midnight Close.

WORLD SERVICE

BBC World Service can be received in Western Europe on medium wave (648 kHz 463m) at the following times (GMT): [illegible] News Summary 9.15 Music Now 9.45 Letter From London 9.55 Waveguide 10.00 World News 10.09 The World Today 10.25 The Week in Wales 10.30 Financial News. 10.40 Reflections 10.45 Sports Roundup. 11.00 World News 11.09 Commentary 11.15 From the Weeklies 11.30 Thirty Minute Theatre 12.00 World News 12.09 News About Britain 12.15 Radio Newsreel 12.30 About Britain 12.45 Sarah and Company 1.15 Outlook 1.45 Musical Machines 2.00 World News 2.09 Review of the British Press 2.15 Network UK 2.30 People and Politics 3.00 World News 3.09 News About Britain 3.15 The World Today 3.30 Haydn 4.00 Newsdesk. 5.45 The World Today

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1 MF 1053kHz/285m or 1089kHz/275m. Radio 2 MF 693kHz/433m or 909kHz/330m Radio 1/2 VHF 88-91MHz Radio 3 VHF 90-92.5MHz, MF 1215kHz/247m. Radio 4 LF 200kHz/1500m and VHF 92-95MHz Greater London Area MF 720kHz/417m. LBC MF 1152khz/261m, VHF 97.3MHz. Capital MF 1548kHz/194m, VHF 95 8MHz BBC Radio London MF 1458kHz/206m and VHF 94 9MHz World Service MF 648kHz/463m.

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

BBC1

Cymru/Wales 12.57-1.00pm News. 1.45-2.02 Y Cowboi Bach. 2.35-3.00 I Ysgolion: Hac Yma— Tynnu llun. 3.20-3.55 Closedown. 5.10-5.40 Gweld i'r Gwyllt. 6.00-6.22 Wales Today. 7.00-7.20Heddiw. 7.20-7.50 Pobol Y Cwm. 7.50-8.20 Pride of Place. 8.20-8.50 The Colliers' Crusade. 10.15-11.05 Week in, Week out. 11.05-11.06 News. 11.06-12.27am Film: "Hannie Caulder" (Rachael Welch). Scotland 11.00-11.22am For Schools. 12.55-1.00pm News. 3.20-3.55 Closedown. 6.00-6.22 Reporting Scotland. 10.15-10.45 Street Buzz. 10.45-10.50 News. Northern Ireland 11.00-11.22 Closedown. 12.57-1.00pm News. 3.20-3.53 Closedown. 3.53-3.55 News. 6.00-6.22 Scene around six. 10.15-10.45 Spotlight. 10.45-10.50 News. 12.20am News. England 6.00-6.22pm Regional variations. 10.15-10.45 East — Weekend. Midlands — Midlands tonight. North — Regimental Showcase. North East — Coast to Coast. North West — Sweet and Sour. South — Southern Life. South West — Newswatch. West — Who Cares?

BORDER

As London except: 12.30-1.00 Vet. 1.20 News. 1.30-2.00 Entertainers: Lonnie Donegan. 6.00 Lookaround. 6.30-7.00 That's Hollywood. 7.30-8.30 Fall Guy. 10.30 Springsport. 11.00, Danger UXB. 12.00 News. 12.03 Closedown.

ANGLIA

As London except: 11.33-12.00 Survival. 12.30-1.00 Vet. 1.20 News. 1.30-2.00 At Home With the Spinners. 3.45-4.15 Survival. 6.00-7.00 About Anglia. 7.30-8.30 Fall Guy. 11.00 Members Only. 11.30 Film: Goldenrod (Tony Lo Bianco). Rodeo champion falls on hard times after a hip injury. 1.15 Encounters at Walsingham.

CHANNEL

As London except: 11.55am-12.00 Look and See. 12.30-1.00pm Vet. 1.20 News. 1.30-2.00 At home with the Spinners. 3.45-4.15 Welcome back Kotter. 5.15-5.45 Emmerdale Farm. 6.00 Channel report. 6.30-7.00 Brown Study. 7.30-8.30 Hart to Hart. 10.28 News. 10.35 Aujourd'hui en France. 10.45 Film: Investigator (Alan Delon) Murder mystery inthe Alps. 12.30am Closedown.

HTV

As London except: 11.50 am-12.00 Cartoon. 12.30 pm-1.00 Vet. 1.20 News. 1.30-2.00 At Home with the Spinners. 3.45-4.15 How's Your Father? 5.15-5.45 Benson. 6.00 News. 6.30-7.00 Mr and Mrs. 7.30-8.30 Fall Guy. 10.28 News. 10.30 Good Neighbour Show. 11.00 Film: Sapphire (Nigel Patrick). Scotland Yard investigates a girl's murder. 12.40 am Closedown.

HTV CYMRU/WALES

As HTV except: 11.34 am-11.49 About Wales. 12.00-12.10 pm Beth Am Stori? 4.15-4.45 Pren Y Bywyd. 6.00-6.15 Y Dydd. 6.15-6.30 Report Wales. 10.30-11.00 Outlook.

TVS

As London except: 12.30-1.00 Vet. 1.20 News. 1.30-2.00 Bygones. 3.45-4.15 Survival. 5.15 Watch This Space . . . 5.30-5.45 Coast to Coast. 6.00 Coast to Coast. 6.30-7.00 Friday Sportshow. 7.30-8.30 The Fall Guy. 10.30 Sportshow Special: Squash. 11.30 Film: I, Monster (Chistopher Lee, Peter Cushing). Doctor develops injections to change his character. 12.50 Company, followed by Closedown.

TSW

As London except: 12.30-1.00 Vet. 1.20 News. 1.30-2.00 The Spinners. 3.45-4.15 Welcome Back Kotter. 5.15-5.45 Emmerdale Farm. 6.00 Today South West. 6.30-7.00 What's Ahead 7.30-8.30 Hart to Hart. 10.40 Mysterious Tales. 10.45 Film: Investigator (Alain Delon). Murder mystery in the Alps. 12.31 Closedown.

TYNE TEES

As London except: Starts 9.25 Good Word. 9.30-9.35 News. 12.30-1.00 Vet. 1.20 News, Lookaround. 3.45-4.15 Doctor Woman. 6.00 News. 6.02 Sportstime. 6.30-7.00 Northern Life. 7.30-8.30 Fall Guy. 10.30 News. 10.32 Friday Live. 12.00 Superstar Profile: Burt Reynolds. 12.30 Poet's Corner. 12.40 Closedown.

SCOTTISH

As London except: 12.30pm-1.00 Vet. 1.20 News. 1.30-2.00 Square One. 3.45-4.15 Money-go-round. 5.15-5.45 Mr & Mrs. 6.00 Scotland today. 6.25 Sports extra. 6.45-7.00 Hear Here. 7.30-8.30 Charlies' Angels. 10.30 Ways and Means. 11.00 Late Call. 11.05 Streets of San Francisco. 12.00 Seachd Laithean. 12-15am Closedown.

ULSTER

As London except: 11.34 am-12.00 Face Your Future. 12.30 pm-1.00 Vet. 1.20 Lunchtime. 1.30-2.00 Bygones. 3.45-4.15 Survival. 5.15 Hear Here. 5.30-5.45 Good Evening Ulster. 6.00 Good Evening Ulster. 6.30-7.00 Diff'rent Strokes. 7.30-8.30 Fall Guy. 10.30 Witness. 10.35 Counterpoint Special: political future of Northern Ireland. 11.35 News at Bedtime, Closedown.

GRANADA

As London except. 11.54am-12.00 Wattoo Wattoo. 12.30pm-1.00Vet. 1.20pm Granada reports. 1.30 Exchange Flags. 1.55-2.25 Our Little Town. 3.40-4.15 European Track Billiards. 6.00 Kick off. 6.30-7.00 Granada reports. 7.30-8.30 Fall Guy. 11.00 Week on Friday. 11.30 Film: The Secret (Jean-Louis Trintignant). Escaped prisoner finds refuge with a writer and his mistress 1.25 Closedown.

GRAMPIAN

As London except: Starts 9.30 am-9.35 First Thing. 12.30 pm-1.00 Vet. 1.20 News. 1.30-2.00 Counterpoint. 3.45-4.15 European Trick Billiards. 6.00-7.00 North Tonight. 7.30-8.30 Fall Guy. 10.30 Seached Laithean. 10.45 Film: Night of the Big Heat (Christopher Lee, Peter Cushing). Sci-fi thriller of heatwave in November. 12.25 am News. 12.30 Closedown.

YORKSHIRE

As London except: 12.30 pm-1.00 Vet. 1.20 News. 1.30-2.00 Presenting Billie Jo Spears. 3.40-4.15 European Trick Billiards. 6.00 Calendar. 6.30-7.00 Sport. 7.30-8.30 Fall Guy 11.00 Snooker. 11.45 Mannix. 12.40 am Closedown.

CENTRAL

As London except: 11.35-12.00 Come Close. 12.30-1.00 Vet. 1.20 News. 1.30-2.00 At Home With the Spinners. 6.00-7.00 News. 7.30-8.30 Fall Guy. 11.00 News. 11.05 Film: Counterfeit Traitor (William Holden, Lilli Palmer). True story of Eric Erickson, a double agent in the Second World War. 1.40 Closedown.

WHAT THE SYMBOLS MEAN: † STEREO * BLACK AND WHITE (r) REPEAT.

CHOICE

Anton Rodgers: BBC 2, 9.40 pm

● THE GUEST (BBC 2, 9.40pm) is not a good advertisement for the Guide Michelin. Nor will it do very much to boost the demand for pâté. But enough of that; another word and I will have given way the whole point of the grisly little comedy which Pauline Macaulay has extracted from a Gerald Durrell short story. Armed with the knowledge of the dénouement, it is possible to attack this Playhouse film for its excessive padding as the pair of holidaying bickerers (Anton Rodgers and Judy Cornwell) are shown to have common ground only in their sensual appeciation of the spécialités-de-la-maison at their Michelin-recommended gastronomic haven. But that is to be wise after the event, and Mr Rodgers and Miss Cornwell make the event itself most enjoyable, despite the prevailing atmosphere of distinct unease at La Petite Chanson.

● What's this? An Afternoon Theatre play penned nearly 200 years before the birth of Christ? Truth to say, A POT OF GOLD (Radio 4, 3.02) was written in the days of Ancient Rome. It was the work of the great comic dramatist Titus Maccius Plautus, and it was known then as Aulularia. I remember hearing Martyn Wade's translation and adaption of this play about a miser on its first airing nearly two years ago, and I remember that it made me laugh heartily. Nigel Stock plays the miser Euclio, undoubtedly a trailblazer for Moliere's skinflint.

● WHAT'S THAT YOU'RE READING? (Radio 4, 4.15) applies itself to the task of investigating how much sexist prejudice there is in reading habits. In more basic terms, do men and women read the same type of books? The investigators are Frances Donnelly, Beryl Bainbridge and Angela Carter.

● Music choice: The BBC Symphony Orchestra concert (Radio 3, 7.30 and 8.45) includes Yehudi Menuhin playing Bartok's second violin concerto and the Beethoven No 6 (the Pastoral). And there's a broadcast premiere of Elizabeth Machonchy's Romanze for viola and orchestra, played by the Orchestra of St John's Smith Square, with Nicholas Logie as soloist (Radio 3, 3pm). The BBC Scottish SO play Nielsen's second symphony on Radio 3 at 11.35 this morning.

House of Lords | Law Report March 26 1982 | House of Lords

No intent to use coin needed

Regina v Heron
Regina v Storey
Regina v Thomas

Before Lord Wilberforce, Lord Simon of Glaisdale, Lord Russell of Killowen, Lord Scarman and Lord Bridge of Harwich

[Speeches delivered March 25]

The offence under section 1(1) of the Coinage Offences Act 1936, of falsely making or counterfeiting any coin resembling any current coin, did not import a requirement of an intent that the false coins should be put to a dishonest use. A false or counterfeit coin was one which resembled a genuine current coin but was not genuine. It was the making of such, and no more than the making of such, at which section 1(1) was aimed.

Their Lordships so held in dismissing appeals by David Heron, Peter Edwin Storey and Christopher Robin Thomas from the Court of Appeal (Criminal Division) (Lord Justice Shaw, Mr Justice Mais and Mr Justice Tudor Evans) (*The Times* August 1, 1981; [1981] 1 WLR 1480) which had dismissed their appeals against their convictions at the Central Criminal Court in September, 1980 (Judge Abdela, QC) of an offence under section 1(1)(a) of the Coinage Offences Act 1936.

Lord Scarman pointed out that the certified question no longer remained of general interest, since the subsection with the rest of the Act had been repealed and replaced by the Forgery and Counterfeiting Act 1981; and its counterfeiting offence was formulated in very different terms.

Section 1(1) of the 1936 Act provides: "Every person who falsely makes or counterfeits any coin resembling any current coin shall be guilty of felony and on conviction thereof liable — (a) in a case where the coin resembles a current gold or silver coin, to penal servitude for life or for any term not less than three years."

Section 17(b) provides that "a coin shall be deemed to be current if it has been coined in any of His Majesty's Mints".

The three men were arraigned on an indictment the first count of which charged a conspiracy to "falsely make or counterfeit coins resembling current gold coins, namely half sovereigns", contrary to section 1, and the second "to defraud such persons as might be induced to purchase false or counterfeit gold half sovereigns by false representations that they were genuine...".

At their trial, when they pleaded not guilty to the first charge, the judge ruled that the substantive offence to which count 1 related did not require, in addition to proof of intent to produce the coins in question, proof of a further intent of dishonesty or to defraud; whereupon the defendants changed their pleas to guilty on count 1 and were convicted; and the jury were discharged from giving a verdict on count 2.

On appeal against conviction on the ground that the judge's ruling was wrong in law and that it was necessary for the prosecution on count 1 to prove dishonest intent, the court dismissed the appeals but certified as a point of law of general public importance: "Whether or not the offence of counterfeiting under section 1(1)(a) of the Act of 1936 is an absolute offence which requires no element of dishonest intent."

Mr Louis Blom-Cooper, QC and Mr Paul Dodgson for the defendants; Mr Robert Harman, QC and Mr Michael Sayers for the Crown.

LORD SIMON said that the three men had at first pleaded not guilty to the first count charging conspiracy pursuant to section 1(1)(a). The Crown adduced evidence that the men intentionally produced coins resembling half sovereigns, which were admittedly "current coin" within the meaning of the Act. The Crown produced no evidence as to what the men intended to do with the coins.

The judge, and the Court of Appeal, had ruled against the submission on their behalf that, to establish an offence under section 1(1)(a), the Crown must prove a dishonest intention, an intent to pass the counterfeit coins as genuine, an intent to defraud.

It was common ground that the word "absolute" in the certified question was mistaken and should be deleted. There was no question of the offence under section 1(1)(a) being an offence of strict liability.

The issue was whether it was, in the modern terminology, a crime of basic intent or a crime of specific intent: *R v George* ([1960] 128 Can CC 289, 301). It was contended for the defendants that section 1(1)(a) enacted a crime of specific intent and that it was incumbent on the Crown to show that the state of mind of the accused extended to a dishonest purpose.

Section 1 must be construed in the context of the whole Act. As preliminary observations his Lordship would say that, in the words of Mr Justice Collins in *Dickins v Gill* ([1896] 2 QB 310, 316) in relation to a comparable statute, it was obvious that the purpose of the Act was in every way to make it illegitimate for persons to do that which by the policy of the law could only be done "by, or with the authority of, the Crown; . . .". So it was the type of Act where one would expect to find considerable overlapping of offences.

Second, the 1936 Act was a consolidation Act; and one should look at the nature of the *mens rea* in other provisions of it, to see what light they threw on the intent required to be proved in section 1(1) (a).

The Act enacted a number of crimes palpably of basic intent: sections 2(a) (i), 4, 6, 7. It also contained a number of crimes of specific intent, plainly indicated by the use of the words "with intent to". Section 1(1) (a) lacked those significant words indicating specific intent.

Third, section 5(6) (uttering) expressly used the precise words "with intent to defraud" which counsel for the defendants would have their Lordships understand in section 1(1), (a). His Lordship could find nothing in section 1(1) (a) to support that.

He would dismiss the appeal.

LORD RUSSELL said that basically the defendants' case relied on the words "falsely makes or counterfeits" as importing a *requirement of* an intent that the false coins be put to a dishonest use.

The language of section 1(1) was, in his Lordship's view, nothing more than the expression of the activity which produced an article referred to in *many places* as "any false or counterfeit coin" one which resembled a genuine current coin but was not, and so was false or counterfeit. it was the making of such, and no more than the making of such, at which section 1(1) was aimed.

LORD SCARMAN said that the certified question in the appeals was no longer of any general public importance, but only to the three defendants convicted of conspiring to commit an offence under section 1(1) (a) of the 1936 Act. The subsection with the rest of the Act had been repealed and replaced by a reforming piece of legislation, the Forgery and Counterfeiting Act 1981 which came into force after the hearing of the present appeals in the Court of Appeal.

The new counterfeiting offence which section 14 of that Act substituted for section 1(1) (a) of the 1936 Act was formulated in very different terms. A decision by the House on the repealed section would have no bearing on the true interpretation of the new section. Unless there were some cases under the old law still awaiting decision, the proper construction of the old subsection was now only of historical interest.

So his Lordship would be brief. The issue in the appeals was whether the subsection required proof of an intent to deceive or defraud. The Court of Appeal had held that it did not. His Lordship agreed with them and would dismiss the appeals.

Lord Wilberforce and Lord Bridge agreed.

Solicitors: Hepburns, Peckham; D D P.

One-third is best starting point

Slater v Slater

Before Sir John Arnold, President and Lord Justice May

[Judgment delivered March 23]

In allowing in part an appeal by a former husband against an order for periodical payments to his former wife, the Court of Appeal observed that the one-third calculation often used by lawyers when advising parties on financial provision following a divorce was still useful as a guideline notwithstanding recent dicta to the contrary.

Mr Timothy Scott for the husband; Mr Roger Shawcross for the wife.

The PRESIDENT said that there had been much argument as to how one should approach such cases. The court was referred to observations on the one-third guideline made by Lord Justice Ormrod in *Furniss v Furniss* (*The Times* October 27, 1981) who had said that the application of section 25 of the Matrimonial Causes Act 1973 in the present economic climate made the one-third calculation on gross income wholly inappropriate.

A week later in the case of *Stockford v Stockford* (*The Times* November 5, 1981) there was again a reference to the one-third guideline. There Lord Justice Ormrod, giving the judgment of the court, had said that the provisions of section 25 should be applied without superimposed judicial glosses of which the "one-third rule" was an example.

The one-third guideline might not be particularly helpful in cases involving very large or very small sums of money but in cases in between it was still useful provided it was used on the understanding that to some extent, depending on the facts of each case, it might be necessary to depart from it in one way or another.

It was useful to have some guideline to start with. Such certainty as could be observed in such a difficult area of the law was infinitely desirable, with decrees absolute running at the rate of 150,000 a year it must be desirable to limit the number of cases in which financial disputes were fought out in the courts to a minimum.

That could only be achieved if practitioners had a clear understanding of what principles were likely to apply and felt confident that financial issues which arose between the spouses would not be determined by caprice or judicial idiosyncrasy.

LORD JUSTICE MAY, agreeing said that although one could not approach the case in a strictly arithmetical way it would clearly be of assistance to the parties' advisers to have as precise a line of approach as was possible.

The proper approach was to take any starting point, whether it was the one-third guideline or the offer made and see what that produced, then balance, in a broad way, income against expenditure.

Then it would be for the court to alter the starting point up or down if necessary so as to produce a result which was as just as possible to all the parties in the light of the circumstances and in the light of section 25.

Solicitors: Simons Muirhead & Allan; Lamport Bassitt & Hiscock, Southampton.

Long written cases deprecated

M. V. Yorke Motors (a firm) v Edwards

Before Lord Diplock, Lord Fraser of Tullybelton, Lord Russell of Killowen, Lord Scarman and Lord Roskill

[Speeches delivered March 25]

Long written cases lodged by parties "in the style of American 'appellate briefs'" were deprecated by Lord Diplock when the House dismissed an interlocutory appeal by a motor dealer (Mr Edwards) from a decision of the Court of Appeal that he should have leave to defend a claim by another motor dealer (Mr Yorke) for £23,250 made under Order 14 rules 3 and 4 of the Rules of the Supreme Court, on condition that he paid in to court the sum of £3,000.

Mr D. P. Friedman for Mr Yorke; Mr R. Arnold for Mr Edwards.

LORD DIPLOCK, with whom all the members of the House agreed, said that the appeal raised a short point of practice and procedure under Order 14, rules 3 and 4 and the hearing lasted one and a half hours.

The length of time required for counsel's opening addresses at *hearings of appeals to the House* had been significantly reduced by the practice adopted over the last seven years under which all the members of the appellate committee who would be sitting on an appeal would have read in advance at least the judgments in *the courts below and the written* cases lodged by the parties.

That practice, the purpose of which was to reduce the length and consequently the cost of appeals to the House, was one of which by now the Bar should be well aware.

Signs were, however, now appearing that that awareness might be giving rise to a tendency to expand the written cases lodged by the parties so as to incorporate and develop in them detailed written arguments supported by lengthy citations from and references to numerous authorities, much on the same lines as the written "briefs" submitted by the parties in appeals to appellate courts in the United States which had resulted in oral argument playing a relatively insignificant role in the decision-making process adopted by appellate courts in that country.

The practice of the House whereby members of the appellate committee read in advance the judgments in the courts below and the parties' written cases was not intended to reduce the importance of the role played by oral argument in the decision-making process.

Its purpose was to add to the *cogency of the oral argument* by eliminating the necessity for vocal exposition of facts already stated in the judgments below and the reading out of those judgments *in extenso*. Counsel were thus enabled from the outset to concentrate their arguments on what were the real issues in the appeal.

A written case lodged by a party, which itself contained long and elaborate argument and citations from and references to numerous authorities, did nothing to serve that purpose that *was not better done by a written* case that followed the guidance contained in rule 22(i) of the directions as to procedure applicable to civil appeals to the House of Lords.

On the contrary, it defeated one of the principal objects of the practice by adding substantially to the costs of the appeal which the shortening of the oral hearing was designed to reduce.

The instant appeal provided a appropriate occasion for indicating the form a party's written case should take pursuant to rule 22(i) in order to be of greatest assistance at the hearing of the appeal.

The members of the appellate committee having also read the judgments in the courts below, the case *should start* with a statement of what the party conceived to be the issues that arose on the appeal.

Those were generally questions of law or of the exercise of a judicial discretion. It should generally be possible to describe each issue in not more than a sentence or two.

If the party did not intend to pursue issues decided adversely to him below, that should be stated plainly.

Similarly, if it was intended to seek leave to take on the appeal a point that was not taken below, its nature should also be identified with sufficient specificity; and it should also be expressely stated if it was intended to invite the House to *overrule or depart from* a previous decision of its own.

The case should set out no more than the heads of argument on each issue intended to be advanced at the oral hearing. Detailed argument added to the costs of preparing the case and *seldom saved time at the oral* hearing.

Reference to authorities relied on to support any issue should be limited to key authorities which laid down the principle said to be applicable, and passages in the judgments in which the principle was stated should be identified and, unless unduly lengthy, might be quoted verbatim.

References to numerous other cases claimed as analogous to the facts of the case under appeal were usually out of place in the written case.

Where, however, it was intended to rely on cases decided by courts in other countries or legal writings such as the American Restatement, it was of assistance to the House if specific reference was made to those in the written case.

His Lordship had thought it right to make those observations in the instant appeal because it provided, in the case lodged by the appellant, an example of the spread of the tendency his Lordship had deprecated.

His Lordship stated the facts giving rise to the instant appeal, where the courts below must have decided that there was a triable issue by giving Mr Edwards leave to defend on conditions.

It had been conceded by counsel for Mr Yorke that if the sum ordered to be paid as a condition of granting leave to defend was one which the defendant would never be able to pay, then that would be a wrongful exercise of discretion, because it would be tantamount to giving judgment for the plaintiff notwithstanding the court's opinion that there was an issue in dispute which ought to be tried.

On the other hand, his *Lordship could see no reason* why the Court of Appeal should not be entitled to infer that, although it might be difficult, it would not be impossible for Mr Edwards to find security, if his defence were put forward in good faith; nor did his Lordship see any ground on which the House could interfere with the way in which the Court of Appeal exercised the discretion by fixing £3,000 as the appropriate amount of security.

His Lordship would dismiss the appeal.

Solicitors: J. E. Kennedy & Co, Harrow: Gillhams, Willesden.

Reminder on legal aid costs

Din and Another v Wandsworth London Borough Council

[Order made on March 25]

The House of Lords (Lord Wilberforce, Lord Fraser of Tullybelton, Lord Russell of Killowen and Lord Bridge of Harwich) after hearing argument on behalf of Wandsworth London Borough Council housing authority and the Law Society on the authority's application for an order, under section 13 of the *Legal Aid Act* 1974, that their costs in the House and the Court of Appeal should be paid out of the legal aid fund, gave a reminder on the proper considerations in making orders to award the costs of successful unassisted parties out of the legal aid fund.

Their Lordships had held (*The Times*, November 27, 1981; [1981] 3 WLR 918) that the housing authority had been entitled to decide, under section 17 of the Housing (Homeless Persons) Act 1977, that Mr Taj Din and his wife, both legally aided applicants, had become homeless intentionally.

LORD WILBERFORCE *said* that their Lordships did not consider it necessary to restate the principles which should govern such applications. They had been sufficiently expounded by the House in *Gallie v Lee (No 2)* ([1971] AC 1039) and *Davies v Taylor (No 2)* ([1974] AC 225).

Their Lordships wished, however, to make it clear that the practice whereby orders for costs were provisionally made, subject to an opportunity being given to the Law Society to make representations, did not imply that such provisional orders against the legal aid fund were made as of course whenever an unassisted party was successful.

Such a procedure, placing, as it would, the onus on the Law Society of showing why such an order should not be made, would not be in accordance with the *terms of section* 13, as interpreted in the cases referred to.

The House in fact had to consider, and did consider, in each case whether it was just and equitable that such a provisional order should be made, the fact that the unassisted party had *succeeded* being only one of the circumstances to be taken into account.

In the present case their Lordships were of opinion, taking all the circumstances into consideration, that the housing authority's costs of the appeal in the House, but not in the Court of Appeal, should be borne by the legal aid fund.

John Manning







All hands to the aid of a shoeless Princess Michael of Kent at Cowes yesterday as she is welcomed aboard Victory, Britain's America's Cup contender. **Report, page 17.**

Newman appointment infuriates GLC chief

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

An attack on the appointment of Sir Kenneth Newman as the next Commissioner for the Metropolitan Police is made today by Mr Kenneth Livingstone, leader of the Greater London Council.

Writing in *Labour Herald*, of which he is a co-editor, under the headline, *Newman is not the man for London*, Mr Livingstone says that the decision to appoint Sir Kenneth as the successor to Sir David McNee will cause widespread alarm among black Londoners.

He says of Sir Kenneth, former Chief Constable of the Royal Ulster Constabulary: "His experience is more suited to the control of a paramilitary force in a city torn by civil war than as a police chief in a multiracial city with a parliamentary democracy."

Mr Livingstone adds: "We must demand that Newman's appointment does not proceed, and that the Greater London Council's police committee, with representatives of the London boroughs, be allowed to appoint McNee's replacement."

He writes that Sir Kenneth's background has been in the area of army-style weaponry and paramilitary campaigns against forces feared by the establishment. "We do not want to see police-army methods that have been fashioned to meet the needs of colonial war in north-eastern Ireland imposed on the streets of London."

The solution to street crime lay in tackling the causes, high unemployment, bad housing, poor education, and institutional racism, rather than in arming the police with the methods of urban warfare.

"We must oppose Newman's appointment because it will inevitably bring exactly the wrong approach to policing on the streets of London. Five years of Newman could leave the working class areas of our city in much the same state as the Catholic areas in Northern Ireland. The threat of his appointment means that we must redouble our efforts for a democratically accountable police force in London."

Mr Livingstone says that Sir David McNee's resignation had been expected since last summer's riots. "There has been the long drawn-out failure to tackle the cover-up of police corruption in London and the complete breakdown on police-community relations in large areas of the capital.

"Now we face the disturbing police campaign against even the limited reforms of Lord Scarman, and the attacks on any concept of accountability by chief constables such as Manchester's James Anderton. Thus it is clear that the force intends to fight to the limit to preserve the present system of wholly inadequate control."

Kidnappers of Dozier are jailed

Verona, March 25. — Seventeen Red Brigades terrorists were today sentenced to a total of more than 300 years imprisonment for kidnapping General James Dozier.

The longest sentence — 27 years—was passed on Cesare di Lenardo, aged 23, one of five terrorists captured when police rescued the American general in Padua on January 28.

In accordance with government policy of offering shorter sentences to terrorist who help the police, the leader of the kidnappers, Antonio Savasta, aged 27, was jailed for 16 years.

The court president, Signor Francesco Pulcini, said all 17 defendants had been found guilty of taking part in the 42-day kidnapping. Eight defendants are still on the run. Of those in court, three were women.

Most of the sentences were slightly lower than those demanded. The defendants are to appeal. Fines ranging from 100,000 lire (£40) to 1.3m lire were also imposed.

Five defendants who also cooperated received reduced sentences ranging from two years and two months to 14 years. Alberta Biliato, who did not cooperate, was jailed for 17½ years.

Before the defendants were led away they waved and greeted their families, who sent hamburgers and soft drinks into the court-room cages during the long wait for the verdict.—Reuter.

Why the Germans bought the British Watteau

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

Herr Hermann Abs, chairman of the board of the Frankfurt Museum, explained yesterday why the museum had paid DM3m (£700,000) for a painting attributed to Watteau which had passed through Christie's in December for £132,000.

The painting, depicting "Ladies and gentlemen embarking for the Isle of Cythera", had been in Britain for the last 200 years and was sent for sale by the trustees of the late Major-General E. H. Goulburn Settlement.

The National Gallery has been trying for some years to improve its holdings of French eighteenth century paintings. Were this a genuine Watteau it would have been considered a desirable acquisition. However, an export licence was granted (with the National Gallery as expert advisers). Was an important treasure allowed to slip through the net?

Herr Abs definitely believes so. Honorary president of the Deutsche Bank, he is a considerable figure on the German banking and cultural scene. It was he who masterminded the German museums' consortium buying at the celebrated von Hirsch sale in London in 1978.

Herr Abs explains that he was offered a painting of the same composition reportedly by Watteau, in Paris some 10 months ago. On a later visit to London he was shown Christie's version in their storeroom. His curiosity was aroused but since the Paris version was published in the literature as the authentic work and Christie's cataloguers cast doubt on their version, he did not encourage Frankfurt to bid.

Later he learnt that the Christie's painting was in the hands of a dealer in New York and he encouraged experts from Frankfurt to fly over to see it. They also saw the Paris version and consulted scholars in France and Germany on the comparison between the two works. They concluded in favour of the Christie's version and bought it.

But the complications do not rest there. Christie's suggest that a third version, now lost, may once have existed. And since Watteau was not an artist who made a habit of painting more than one version of the same composition (though this was frequent practice with some artists) *only one version is* likely to be authentic, the others being almost certainly copies, though perhaps contemporary and of good quality.

The evidence for there having been three versions rests on two eighteenth century engravings of the composition. One is by Mercier, which corresponds to the Christie's picture and was reputedly made in London. The other is by Larmessin and corresponds to the Paris picture.

Sale room report, page 2

Columbia's touchy colonel picks up buzzing noise

From Piers Ackerman, Johnson Space Centre, Houston, Texas, March 25

The crew of the space shuttle Columbia overcame the minor technical difficulties that have beset the third mission of the spacecraft today and were well ahead of their schedule of experiments.

Colonel Jack Lousma, the commander, and Colonel Gordon Fullerton, the pilot, manipulated the spacecraft's remote controlled arm and used it to pluck a 350lb plasma measuring device from the cargo bay of their winged space freighter.

The plasma diagnostic package, held extended on the arm, is expected to measure the wake of the space shuttle as it passes through the earth's magnetosphere at an altitude of 130 nautical miles.

The wake generated as the spacecraft passes through space is a complex phenomenon that scientists have not yet had the opportunity to study with the smaller craft previously flown.

Since many scientific and engineering investigations will use the shuttle as a plasma laboratory, there is a need to understand the extent of this wake, which could complicate measurements being made in the vicinity of the orbiter.

Both men slept more peacefully on Wednesday night after disengaging earpieces which had previously picked up a loud buzzing noise as the space craft passed over Iran, Southern Russia and Thailand.

Commander Lousma said Tuesday that the noise was similar to that caused by Soviet over-the-horizon radar signals.

Nasa officials then said that they thought the sound may have been ultra high frequency in appearance but a non-Nasa pilot said a recording of the noise beamed back from the space shuttle sounded like a radar scanning the spacecraft, or "painting the ship", in United States Air Force jargon.

The astronauts are still experiencing problems with their lavatory and Nasa technicians are working on a model in Houston to see if they can come up with a solution.

"We have a couple more tricks up our sleeve that we could try," a Nasa official told the astronauts early today, but Commander Lousma was unimpressed.

"That is a bad choice of words," he said. "Because if you want to try them I'll probably be up to my sleeves." Mission control radioed back that Commander Lousma sounded as if he was feeling better than he had been in recent days.

Neither astronaut took motion sickness tablets on Thursday and they did not need sleeping tablets the previous night.

Early on Thursday morning the crew of the shuttle set a new record for astronauts on board the Columbia when they passed the two-day, 12-hour and two-minute period.

Baird puts William in the picture

Continued from page 1

first week of October, 1925, everything functioned properly. The image of the dummy's head formed itself on the screen with what appeared to be an almost unbelievable clarity. *I had got it!*"

He paid half a crown (12½ pence) to persuade his office boy, William Taynton, to sit amid the bright lights and whirring discs of the transmitter. Baird wrote: "I saw the flickering but clearly recognizable image of William's face, the first face seen by television."

It is clear that Baird thought himself the originator of television, and Mr Flamm is determined to prove him right. However, he believes there is a concerted effort in America to promote Zworkin as the father of television, even though Zworkin said in 1977: "I invented the iconoscope. That is my claim. I make no other claim. Father? What is Father? That is *newspaper talk*." Zworkin, now in his nineties, lives in Florida and Princeton, New Jersey.

☐ It may have been luck that Baird's system was adopted by the BBC for the first regular television broadcasts in 1926—it is said that a coin was spun to decide whether his or a competitor's should be used—but experts insist that his work clinched the matter (Kenneth Gosling writes).

THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

Today's events

Royal engagements

The Duke of Edinburgh visits new Conference Centre in Harrogate, 11.30; addresses Conference of Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, York University, 3.30.

Princess Anne, Patron, Riding for the Disabled Association, attends lunch, Saddlers' Hall, 1.

Princess Margaret attends Royal Air Force Anniversary Concert, in aid of Royal Air Force Benevolent Fund, Royal Festival Hall, 7.45.

The Duchess of Gloucester, President, General Welfare of the Blind, opens new factory at Ashburton Grove, London, 11.30.

Exhibitions in progress

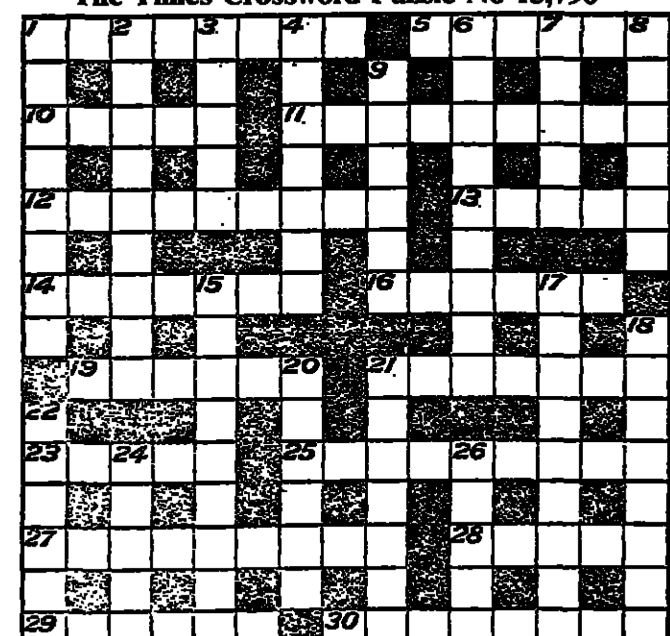
William Havell Bicentenary Exhibition, Abbot Hall Art Gallery, Kendal; Mon to Fri 10.30 to 5.30, Sat and Sun 2 to 5; (until April 25).

The Gentle Eye—photographs by Jane Bown, Scottish National Portrait Gallery, Queen Street, Edinburgh; Mon to Sat 10 to 12.30 and 1.30 to 5, Sun 2 to 5; (until April 11).

Drawings and watercolours by John Ruskin, Whitworth Art Gallery, University of Manchester, Whitworth Park, Manchester; Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Thurs 10 to 9; (until May 3).

Vladimir Mayakovsky—Twenty years of Work, Museum of Modern Art, 30 Pembroke Street, Oxford; Tues to Sat 10 to 5, Sun 2 to 5; (until May 2).

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 15,790



ACROSS

1 Cooper's hose made of leather (8).
5 Kemp producing a nine days' wonder (6).
10 Selkirk's biographer throws one-time diplomats in the river (5).
11 Strong ire caused by such reclassification (9).
12 Free to become immoral (4,5).
13 O, doctor, about this game . . (5).
14 . . . do nothing sour, rough or smelly (7).
16 To make artistic impression in today's limits makes us peevish (6).
19 Father's in a chasm without a way round (6).
21 Poles employed in this permissive age? (3-4).
23 Old Britons get hard water in return (5).
25 Arranger or a singer maybe (9).
27 Egyptian god has old-fashioned drawing aid (3,6).
28 Land on the beam? (5).
29 Started play and did what was needed (6).
30 Study department — French, of course (8).

DOWN

1 Second issue inciting rebellion (8).
2 Bid politician make donations (9).
3 Bend this endlessly in homage (5).
4 Points right to you French — so excitable (7).
6 Camels were so once — pigs never (9).
7 Many a leg to achieve 9 (5).
8 Tatty horse dressed in expensive get-up (6).
9 Oral agreement for rise (6).
15 Female slave does quail when abused (9).
17 Greetings to jolly bad weather (9).
18 Dog loses his tail. Get it back (8).
20 Catch-phrase for Spain's first rocker (6).
21 Note catch in the Chairman's old car part (7).
22 Will the wife note our absence? (6).
24 Admit part of one's recent error (5).
26 "Athwart men's —— as they lie asleep" (*R & J*) (5).

Solution of Puzzle No 15,789

Prize Crossword in The Times tomorrow

We apologise for the misprinting of 4 across in yesterday's puzzle (early editions) which should have read: "He's outside left in Athenian type of sport (8)".

Last chance to see

Etchings by Jackie Parry, Garden Gallery, Darlington; 10 to 7.30 (ends today).

The Subjective Eye, Arnolfini Gallery, New Quay, Bristol; 11 to 8 (ends tomorrow).

Hurry Along Please—a hundred years of public transport in Oxfordshire, Banbury Museum; 10 to 4 (ends tomorrow).

Centenary exhibition, Ipswich Museum and Gallery, High Street, Ipswich; 10 to 5 (ends tomorrow).

Bronze sculpture, paintings, drawings, theatre designs, etching and aquatints by Michael Ayrton, City Art Centre, 2 Market Street, Edinburgh; 10 to 5 (ends tomorrow).

Stoneware by John Ward, Peter Dingley Gallery, 16 Meer Street, Stratford-upon-Avon; 9.30 to 1.30 and 2.30 to 5.30 (ends tomorrow).

Paintings by Cheam Common Art Group, Cheam Library, Church Road, Cheam; Fri 9.30 to 8, Sat 9.30 to 5 (ends tomorrow).

Talks, lectures

Old and New Thinking about Picasso, by Timothy Hilton, Museum and Art Gallery, John Frost Square, Newport, 7.30.

The Sussex Coast Line, by D Ellwood, St Peter's Community Centre, Old Town, Bexhill-on-Sea, 7.30.

Music

Concert by City of Oxford Choir, Town Hall, Oxford, 8.15.

Concert of sacred music for Lent, Bristol Cathedral, College Green, Bristol, 7.30.

Concert by Polish Chamber Orchestra, King George's Hall, Northgate, Blackburn, 7.30.

General

London Is . . . Entertainment exhibition train highlighting variety of theatre in London's West End and tourist attractions of the capital, Piccadilly station, Manchester, 10 to 5.

Auctions today

Bonhams, Montpelier Street: Ceramics and works of art; jewels and objects of virtu, both 11. Christie's, King Street: 19th and 20th century pictures, 11. Christie's, South Kensington: Printed books, 10.30: Art Nouveau and Art Deco, 1; dolls, 2. Phillips, Blenheim Street: Silver and plate, 11. Sotheby's, Bond Street: Furniture, 11.

Viewing

Bonhams, Montpelier Street: Ceramics and works of art, 9 to 11; jewels and objects of virtu, 9 to 10. Christie's, King Street: Chinese Export porcelain; Islamic and Indian manuscripts and miniatures; late 18th and 19th century Continental drawings; Impressionist and modern paintings, drawings and sculpture: all 9.15 to 4.30. Christie's, South Kensington: Dolls, 9.15 to 12; Art Nouveau and Art Deco, 9.15 to 11; old and modern silver; English and Continental prints, both 9.15 to 4.30. Phillips, Blenheim Street: Silver, 9 to 10.30: 19th and 20th century Continental paintings; furniture, carpets and objects, both 9 to 4.30. Sotheby's, Bond Street: Virtu and works of art; Chinese porcelain and works of art; stamps; Impressionist and modern paintings and sculpture: Indian miniatures and works of art: printed books, all 9 to 4.30. Sotheby's, Belgravia: Victorian paintings, 9.30 to 4.30.

Phillips and Jollys, Old King Street, Bath: Victorian furniture and effects, 10 to 6.

Parliament today

Commons (9.30): Private member's motion on combating juvenile crime.

The papers

The Daily Mirror asks why Tariq Ali should have wanted to rejoin the Labour Party, when in 1968 he joined "as a joke" and promptly tore up his card. "The same joke isn't funny today", the paper adds; "the Labour Party needs Mr Ali like it needs a lost deposit".

Strongly criticizing "the daft leader of the GLC" for his attack on Sir Kenneth Newman, the Daily Express says: "In seeking to drag the police into party politics, Mr Livingstone does nothing but drag himself into the political gutter".

The deterioration of the West Bank situation is putting France in a delicate situation, Le Monde said yesterday, with "all parties to the conflict expecting France to give precise pledges of solidarity".

The Washington Post said there must be an "awfully clear demonstration that the right people have the upper hand in Guatemala" after the latest coup, before US aid is renewed.

Sporting fixtures

Football: Fourth division, Colchester v Hull City, Stockport v Darlington, York City v Scunthorpe (all 7.30).

Racing: Flat meeting at Doncaster (2.0); National Hunt at Devon and Exeter (1.15), Newbury (2.0).

Rugby Union: Rosslyn Park schools sevens, Roehampton (10.40).

Rugby League: Second division, Carlisle v Rochdale Hornets, Swinton v Cardiff City.

Badminton: All England championships, Wembley (5.0).

Golf: Sunningdale foursomes, closing rounds.

Sport on TV

BBC2: 11.30, International Badminton, John Player All-England Championships.

ITV: 2.25, Mid-week Racing from Doncaster.

Roads

London and South-east: A25: Roadworks on Station Road, Redhill, Surrey. A2: Roadworks on Old Kent Road westbound at Albany Road junction. A33: Lane closures between Popham and Winchester.

Wales and West: M4: Lane closures between junctions 17 (Chippenham) and 18 (Bath). A55: Only one lane open at Conwy Bridge, Gwynedd; delays when crossing river Conwy. A55: Closed near Moor Lane, Holway, Holywell, Clwyd; diversions.

Midlands: A57: Roadworks and temporary signals at Snake Pass, Derbyshire. A49/A5: Roadworks in Shrewsbury. A625: Closed at Mam Tor, Derbyshire, diversion.

North: A59: Temporary signals at Skipton, Yorkshire. A177/B6291: Delays on Coxhoe southern by-pass, Co Durham. A1/A6136: Lane closures on Catterick by-pass N Yorks.

Scotland: A8; Lane closures from Carnbroe to Chapelhall, Lanarkshire. A9: Temporary signals of Cromarty Bridge, Ross and Cromarty. A93: Temporary signals on Dundee Road, Perth. Information supplied by the AA.

Sea

Scalink Channel services back to normal today, but Holyhead/Dun Laoghaire ferries likely to remain suspended over the weekend.

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Top 10 films

The top ten films in London:

1 Reds
2 On Golden Pond
3 The Secret Policeman's Other Ball
4 Chariots of Fire/Gregory's Girl
5 Mad Max 2
6 Absence of Malice
7 Arthur
8 Whose Life Is It Anyway?
9 Death Wish II
10 The French Lieutenant's Woman

The top five in the provinces:

1 Chariots of Fire/Gregory's Girl
2 Death Wish II
3 Mad Max 2
4 Private Lessons
5 Monty Python's Life of Brian/Airplane!

Compiled by Screen International

Food prices

Best salad buys at the moment are chicory and celery, both cheaper this week; English, Jersey or Dutch hothouse tomatoes are of good quality but remain fairly expensive at 55 to 75p a lb; Spanish and Moroccan varieties are considerably cheaper but of variable quality.

January's bad weather held back crops and green vegetables are still not plentiful, but cauliflower prices are slightly down; root crops remain good value, especially carrots, leeks, onions, swedes and parsnips.

English Cox's apples are still good value but less plentiful; new crop Cape varieties are now appearing in the shops. Oranges and grapefruit remain cheap—also rhubarb.

Meat prices remain fairly stable.

Anniversaries

Births: Konrad von Gesner, naturalist, Zurich, 1576; Benjamin Thompson (Count von Rumford), scientist and co-founder of the Royal Institution, Woburn, Mass, USA, 1753; Alfred Edward Housman, Fockbury, Worcs, 1859. Deaths: Sir John Vanbrugh, London, 1726; Ludwig van Beethoven, Vienna, 1827; Walt Whitman, Camden, NJ, USA, 1892; Cecil Rhodes, Muizenberg, Cape Colony, 1902.

National Day: Bangladesh (Independence Day). On March 26, 1971, East Pakistan proclaimed its secession from the central government, as The People's Republic of Bangladesh.

The Pound

	buys	sells
Australia $	1.78	1.70
Austria Sch	31.75	29.75
Belgium Fr	94.50	89.50
Canada $	2.28	2.19
Denmark Kr	15.30	14.50
Finland Mkk	8.65	8.20
France Fr	11.65	11.05
Germany DM	4.49	4.24
Greece Dr	115.00	108.00
Hongkong $	10.85	10.25
Ireland Pd	1.27	1.22
Italy Lr	2420.00	2320.00
Japan Yn	464.00	438.00
Netherlands Gld	4.96	4.70
Norway Kr	11.40	10.80
Portugal Esc	132.00	125.00
South Africa Rd	2.27	2.07
Spain Pta	194.00	185.00
Sweden Kr	11.04	10.46
Switzerland Fr	3.58	3.36
USA $	1.86	1.79
Yugoslavia Dnr	99.00	93.00

Rates for small denomination bank notes only, as supplied yesterday by Barclays Bank International. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency business.

London: The *FT* Index closed down 2.7 at 559.9.

Weather

Anticyclone centred over S Germany.

6 am to midnight

London, SE, Central S, SW England, Channel Islands: Dry, mist or fog patches at first, sunny; wind variable, light; max temp 14C (57F).

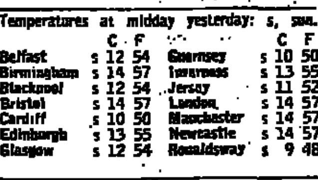
E Anglia, Midlands, E, NW, NE, Central N England, N Wales, Lake District: Dry, mist or fog patches at first, sunny; wind SW, light; max temp 13 to 15C (55 to 59F).

Isle of Man, Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Central Highlands, N Ireland: Dry, sunny periods; wind SW, light to moderate; max temp 13 to 15C (55 to 59F).

Moray Firth, NE, NW Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: Cloudy, some rain later; wind SW, strong to gale; max temp 11 to 14C (52 to 57F).

Outlook for the weekend: Mainly dry, becoming cooler.

SEA PASSAGES: S North Sea, Straits of Dover, English Channel (E): Wind variable, light; sea smooth. St George's Channel: Wind S, light or moderate; sea slight. Irish Sea: Wind SW, fresh or strong, decreasing moderate; sea moderate or rough, decreasing slight.



Sun rises: 5.51 am. Sun sets: 6.23 pm. Moon rises: 6.47 am. Moon sets: 7.44 pm.

First quarter: April 1.

Lighting up time

London 6.53 pm to 5.18 am.
Bristol 7.03 pm to 5.28 am.
Edinburgh 7.08 pm to 5.28 am.
Manchester 7.03 pm to 5.25 am.
Penzance 7.14 pm to 5.41 am.

Yesterday

Temperatures at midday yesterday: s, sun.

		C	F			C	F
Belfast	s	12	54	Guernsey	s	10	50
Birmingham	s	14	57	Inverness	s	13	55
Blackpool	s	12	54	Jersey	s	11	52
Bristol	s	14	57	London	s	14	57
Cardiff	s	10	50	Manchester	s	14	57
Edinburgh	s	13	55	Newcastle	s	14	57
Glasgow	s	12	54	Ronaldsway	s	9	48

Highest and lowest

Highest day temp: Aberdeen, 20C (68F); lowest day max: Thanet, Swanage, 7C (44F); highest rainfall: Lerwick, 0.01in; (45F); highest rainfall: Lerwick, Benbecula, 0.01in; highest sunshine: Dyce, Scarborough, 11.1hr.

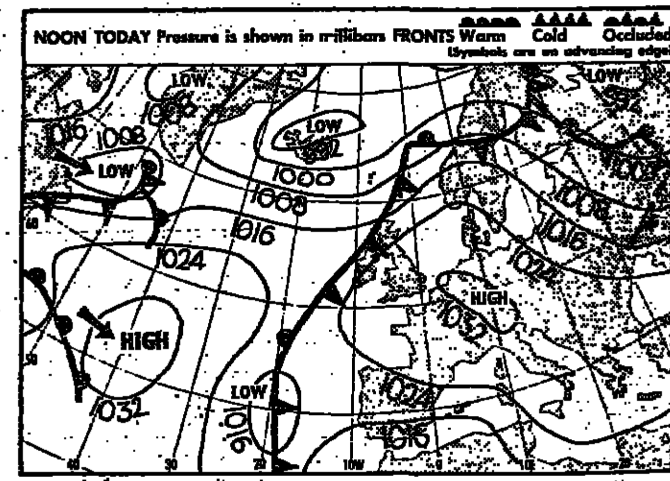
Satellite predictions

Figures give time of visibility, where rising, maximum elevation, and direction of setting. Asterisk denotes entering or leaving eclipse.

LONDON: Cosmos 880R: (March 27) 4.56-5.3; SSW; 45ESE; NE. Cosmos 236: 19.49-19.55; SW; 75S; ENE* and 21.28-21.30; W; 35NW; NW*. Cosmos 236R: (March 27) 4.47-4.52; SSW; 30SE; ENE. Cosmos 185R: 23.56-23.57; NE*; 15NE; NE and (March 27) 1.34-1.37; N*; 35N; NE and 3.11-3.18; NW*; 25N; NE and 4.52-5.0; NW; 25NNE; ENE. Cosmos 151R: 19.22-19.28; WNW; 50NE; E* and 21.1-21.3; WNW; 40WSW; WSW*. Cosmos 1220: (March 27) 4.14-4.20; SSW*; 60SSE; NE. Seasat: 19.28-19.37; NNE; 55NW; SW; and (March 27) 1.56-2.2; ENE; 20NE; N and 3.32-3.41; SE; 70NNE; NNW. Salyut 6: 19.11-19.15; WSW; 20SSW; SSE.

MANCHESTER: Cosmos 880R: (March 27) 4.56-5.3; SSW; 60S; NE. Cosmos 236: 19.49-19.55; SW; 55SSE; ENE* and 21.27-21.30; W; 45WNW; WNW*. Cosmos 236R: (March 27) 4.47-4.51; S; 20SE; E. Cosmos 185R: 23.56-23.57; ENE*; 15ENE; NE and (March 27) 1.34-1.37; NNE*; 40NNE; NE and 3.11-3.18; NW*; 30N; NE and 4.51-5.0; NW; 30NNE; ENE. Cosmos 151R: 19.22-19.28; WNW; 70N; E and 21.0-21.3; WNW; 40SW; SW*. Cosmos 1286: 20.36-20.39; NW; 15NNW; NNE. Cosmos 1220: (March 27) 4.14-4.21; S*; 45ESE; NE. Seasat: 19.27-19.37; NNE; 75NW; SW and 21.6-21.13; NNE; 25NW; W and (March 27) 1.56-2.3; E; 25NNE; NNW and 3.33-3.42; SE; 70ENE; NNW and 5.12-5.20; SSW; 25WSW; NW.

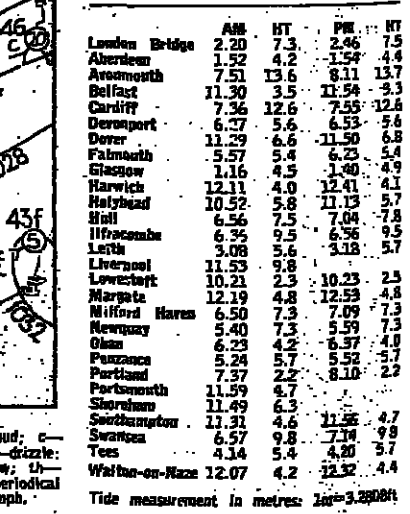
Predictions supplied by Earth Satellite Unit, Aston University.



NOON TODAY

b—blue sky; bc—blue sky & cloud; c—cloudy; o—overcast; f—fog; d—drizzle; h—hail; m—mist; r—rain; s—snow; th—thunderstorm; p—showers; prs—periodical rain with snow. Wind speed in mph.

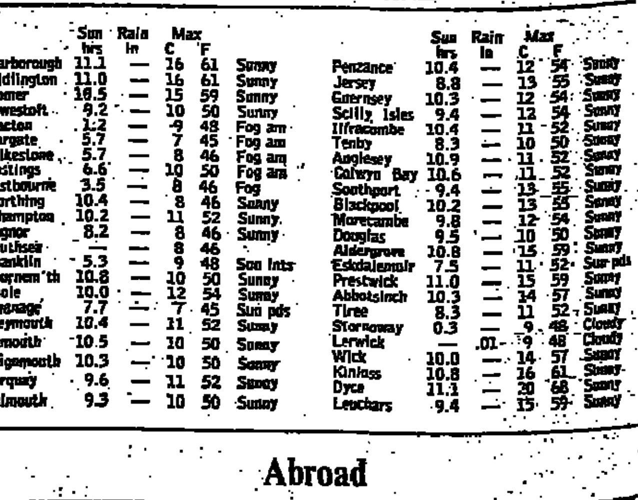
High tides



	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	2.20	7.3	2.46	7.5
Aberdeen	1.52	4.2	1.54	4.4
Avonmouth	7.51	13.6	8.11	13.7
Belfast	11.30	3.5	11.54	3.3
Cardiff	7.36	12.6	7.55	12.6
Devonport	6.37	5.6	6.53	5.6
Dover	11.29	6.6	11.50	6.8
Falmouth	5.57	5.4	6.23	5.4
Glasgow	1.16	4.5	1.40	4.9
Harwich	12.11	4.0	12.41	4.1
Holyhead	10.52	5.8	11.13	5.7
Hull	6.56	7.5	7.04	7.8
Ilfracombe	6.35	9.5	6.56	9.5
Leith	3.08	5.6	3.18	5.7
Liverpool	11.53	9.8		
Lowestoft	10.21	2.3	10.23	2.5
Margate	12.19	4.8	12.53	4.8
Milford Haven	6.50	7.3	7.09	7.3
Newquay	5.40	7.3	5.59	7.3
Oban	6.23	4.2	6.37	4.0
Penzance	5.24	5.7	5.52	5.7
Portland	7.37	2.2	8.10	2.2
Portsmouth	11.59	4.7		
Shoreham	11.49	6.3		
Southampton	11.31	4.6	11.56	4.7
Swansea	6.57	9.8	7.14	9.9
Tees	4.14	5.4	4.20	5.7
Walton-on-Naze	12.07	4.2	12.32	4.4

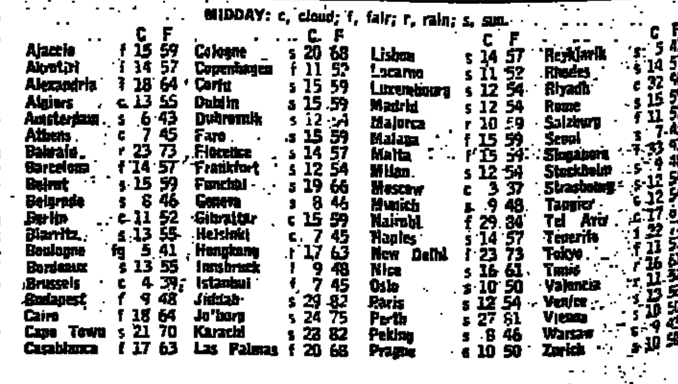
Tide measurement in metres: 1m=3.2808ft

Around Britain



	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F			Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Scarborough	11.1	—	16	61	Sunny	Penzance	10.4	—	12	54	Sunny
Bridlington	11.0	—	16	61	Sunny	Jersey	8.8	—	13	55	Sunny
Cromer	10.5	—	15	59	Sunny	Guernsey	10.3	—	12	54	Sunny
Lowestoft	9.2	—	10	50	Sunny	Scilly Isles	9.4	—	12	54	Sunny
Clacton	1.2	—	9	48	Fog am	Ilfracombe	10.4	—	11	52	Sunny
Margate	5.7	—	7	45	Fog am	Tenby	8.3	—	10	50	Sunny
Folkestone	5.7	—	8	46	Fog am	Anglesey	10.9	—	11	52	Sunny
Hastings	6.6	—	10	50	Fog am	Colwyn Bay	10.6	—	11	52	Sunny
Eastbourne	3.5	—	8	46	Fog	Southport	9.4	—	13	55	Sunny
Worthing	10.4	—	8	46	Sunny	Blackpool	10.2	—	13	55	Sunny
L'hampton	10.2	—	11	52	Sunny	Morecambe	9.8	—	12	54	Sunny
Bognor	8.2	—	8	46	Sunny	Douglas	9.5	—	10	50	Sunny
Southsea	—	—	8	46		Aldergrove	10.8	—	15	59	Sunny
Shanklin	5.3	—	9	48	Sun ints	Eskdalemuir	7.5	—	11	52	Sun pds
Bournem'th	10.8	—	10	50	Sunny	Prestwick	11.0	—	15	59	Sunny
Poole	10.0	—	12	54	Sunny	Abbotsinch	10.3	—	14	57	Sunny
Swanage	7.7	—	7	45	Sun pds	Tiree	8.3	—	11	52	Sunny
Weymouth	10.4	—	11	52	Sunny	Stornoway	0.3	—	9	48	Cloudy
Exmouth	10.5	—	10	50	Sunny	Lerwick	—	.01	9	48	Cloudy
Teignmouth	10.3	—	10	50	Sunny	Wick	10.0	—	14	57	Sunny
Torquay	9.6	—	11	52	Sunny	Kinloss	10.8	—	16	61	Sunny
Falmouth	9.3	—	10	50	Sunny	Dyce	11.1	—	20	68	Sunny
						Leuchars	9.4	—	15	59	Sunny

Abroad



MIDDAY: c, cloud; f, fair; r, rain; s, sun.

		C	F			C	F			C	F			C	F
Ajaccio	f	15	59	Cologne	s	20	68	Lisbon	s	14	57	Reykjavik	s	5	41
Akrotiri	f	14	57	Copenhagen	f	11	52	Locarno	s	11	52	Rhodes	s	14	57
Alexandria	f	18	64	Corfu	s	15	59	Luxembourg	s	12	54	Riyadh	c	32	90
Algiers	c	13	55	Dublin	s	15	59	Madrid	s	12	54	Rome	s	15	59
Amsterdam	s	6	43	Dubrovnik	s	12	54	Majorca	r	10	50	Salzburg	f	11	52
Athens	c	7	45	Faro	s	15	59	Malaga	f	15	59	Seoul	s	7	45
Bahrain	r	23	73	Florence	s	14	57	Malta	f	15	59	Singapore	f	33	91
Barcelona	f	14	57	Frankfurt	s	12	54	Milan	s	12	54	Stockholm	s	9	48
Beirut	s	15	59	Funchal	s	19	66	Moscow	c	3	37	Strasbourg	s	12	54
Belgrade	s	8	46	Geneva	s	8	46	Munich	s	9	48	Tangier	c	12	54
Berlin	c	11	52	Gibraltar	c	15	59	Nairobi	f	29	84	Tel Aviv	c	17	63
Biarritz	s	13	55	Helsinki	c	7	45	Naples	s	14	57	Tenerife	f	22	72
Boulogne	fg	5	41	Hongkong	r	17	63	New Delhi	f	23	73	Tokyo	f	11	52
Bordeaux	s	13	55	Innsbruck	f	9	48	Nice	s	16	61	Tunis	r	16	61
Brussels	c	4	39	Istanbul	f	7	45	Oslo	s	10	50	Valencia	r	11	52
Budapest	f	9	48	Jiddah	s	29	82	Paris	s	12	54	Venice	s	13	55
Cairo	f	18	64	Jo'burg	s	24	75	Perth	s	27	81	Vienna	s	10	50
Cape Town	s	21	70	Karachi	s	28	82	Peking	s	8	46	Warsaw	c	9	48
Casablanca	f	17	63	Las Palmas	f	20	68	Prague	s	10	50	Zurich	s	10	50